

JUNE 1986

VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

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JUNE 14th

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'We Must Fight Harder.' Senior Vice Commanders and Adjutant-Quartermasters learn of problems facing veterans in this "new era" and of changes in VFW programs.

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Capt. Eddie: His Legend Lives by Dan McCarthy. Hero of two wars, Medal of Honor recipient, successful businessman, Eddie Rickenbacker saw more of life than most.

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Michigan's Flagman. An Olympic star of 1908 in London, Ralph Waldo Rose, began a tradition embodied in the U.S. Flag Code when he refused to dip Old Glory to King Edward VII. His words: "This Flag dips to no earthly king."

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Cover: Kendall Young's design this month — June 14 is Flag Day — shows folded United States Flags as they appear before being draped over veterans' caskets.



Official publication of the
**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Published monthly except July

VFW OBJECTIVES

- To insure the national security through maximum military strength
- To speed the rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans
- To assist the widows and orphans and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans
- To promote Americanism through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live

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MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU
OF CIRCULATION

(ISSN 0161-8598)

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90-day period the amount of the current inpatient payment.

For nursing home care during any 365-day period, for each 90 days of care, the veteran would be required to pay the lesser of the cost of furnishing care of the inpatient deductible (\$492).

As a result of the redefining of eligibility criteria for VA hospital care, the provision of law allowing veterans 65 years of age or older to receive care in VA medical facilities regardless of income is repealed.

The Montgomery-Hammerschmidt Bill provisions, with Senate and House amendments, was included in the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, now PL

99-272.

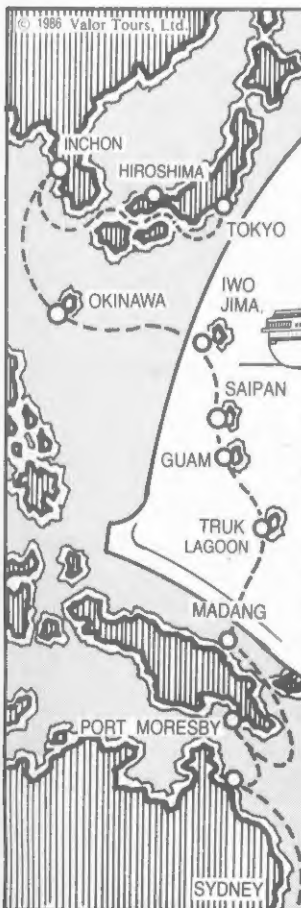
Congressional Budget Office estimates savings will total \$43 million in budget authority and outlays for FY 1986, \$375 for FY 1987 and \$498 for FY 1988.

The VFW has joined a coalition of 15 other major veterans' and military organizations to promote national awareness of current problems facing the military retirement system and national security. A meeting of the coalition concluded that as a result of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings, "military readiness hangs in the balance."

The Gramm-Rudman-Hollings law discriminates against military, federal civilian and railroad retirees

and their survivors by denying them the COLA provided veterans and Social Security beneficiaries effective last Dec. 1. If the law runs its course, military retirees' and their survivors' purchasing power will erode about 22% by FY 1991.


Four bills to restore COLAs are in the House and three in the Senate. Unless Congress restores the COLAs, it will be telling the Armed Forces it is indifferent to them. The end result will be an ineffective fighting force unable to deter Soviet aggression and to protect the nation. A VFW resolution calls for retention of the retirees' purchasing power as essential to national security. ■



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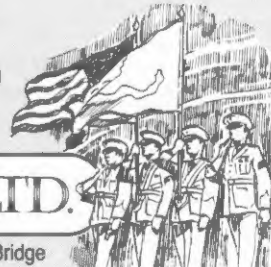
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Backs G-R-H

Let the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act do its job. We must endure it without crying or complaining. The alternative is doomsday. We can, of course, expect to hear agonizing cries coming from many of those now receiving these dollars, who do not, or refuse to understand they are spending their children's and grandchildren's tax dollars who will still be repaying these borrowed dollars now being squandered by Congress, unless borrowing and spending by Congress gradually, slowly comes to a halt, and, we pray, our nation is saved by the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act. — *William J. Owen, 5843 Troy Villa Blvd., Huber Hts., Ohio 45424.*

There is not a "special interest group" in our country that endorses Gramm-Rudman and, sorrily, the VFW is no exception. No wonder it has been impossible to balance our budget. I, too, served in WWII and am a charter member of Post 5632, but do not want to see our country bankrupt by all the handouts to special interest groups. Why can't the VFW take the cuts like a man. Let's quit whining and advocate restriction of spending for every interest group. — *Ward H. Hurd, 6312 Goodrich Ave., St. Louis Park, Minn. 55416.*

Raps Politicos

We must realize that the majority of the politicians in Washington feel no responsibility to us veterans in the great country of ours.

They have shirked and dodged their duties to all of the people of the U.S. until now they see this GRH bill as an answer to all the problems they have created with their free-spending down through the years. Really, how much have the billions in foreign aid since WWII really helped our country?

When the head man spent four years in the Army in California (WWII) making training films, can

we really expect any more than we are receiving? — *Frank H. Garcia, 232 Harmony Road, North Port, Fla. 33596.*

Stamp Controversy

For once and all, I would like to end all controversy and brouhaha as to who the men are on the Korean veterans stamp.

The picture for the stamp was taken from the Time, Inc., book, "This is War!" by David Douglas Duncan. The book is a pictorial review of U.S. Marine Corps operations in Korea in 1950.

I was there in the picture on the stamp. The lead Marine is my good friend Claren Hendrickson, the second Marine is myself. The fourth Marine is also my good friend PFC Jessie D. Yetter. We were all wiremen from Communications Platoon, Headquarters and Service Co., 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. The third soldier is one of our Korean interpreters, name unknown. Cpl. Hendrickson is looking down at the bodies of dead Marines killed the night of Nov. 29 or 30, 1950. The photograph was taken on a curved hill known as Toktong Pass heading toward Hagaru-ri, North Korea. We had just left Yudam-ni Valley that morning.

The nearest U.S. Army units were located at Hagaru-ri, 14 miles away from where the now controversial photo was taken by Duncan, the remnants of the decimated and demoralized units of the 31st and 32nd Infantry Regiments of the Army's 7th Infantry Division.

Of American Indian descent, I am a member of Laguna Pueblo, N.M. Out of a population of approximately 4,500 Laguna Pueblo Indians, four of us served in the 5th Marines: myself, Robert Thomas, Lloyd Green and Paul Day. We are the Chosin Few at Laguna Pueblo. — *Harry D. Early, P.O. Box 100, New Laguna, N.M. 87038.*

Tax Imports, He Says

I'm bitter, but I'm also concerned.

Many of my buddies in the 2nd Ranger Battalion sacrificed their lives in service to our country in World War II. Surely they did not die so that so many so-called "Americans" could purchase cars produced by those countries which caused their deaths. You can help to make their sacrifice count for something and speed the rehabilitation of this nation's disabled and needy veterans and assist their widows, orphans and dependents. You can help by relaying my idea to the person who has the political power to fashion this idea into federal law, Rep. G.V. Montgomery, chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. My idea is simply this: Put a road tax on all foreign-made vehicles driven on American roads, with the funds collected to be dedicated for dispersal by the Veterans Administration. — *Edward L. Gurney, 3717 Clark Ave., N., Fort Payne, Ala. 35967.*

Korean War Vets

I agree with Dave Allison of Exton, Pa. As a Korean War vet, I feel we have been a forgotten people. Well, we haven't forgotten. It was as tough as any war you can name. People would be surprised at the many great Americans who fought in "One Hell of a War" and are proud of the uniform they wore. — *Bill Penn, 1314 Washington St., Hoboken, N.J. 07030.*

Harness Congress

The best way we can fight Congress over lost COLA or VA benefits is to hurt Congressmen in their pocketbooks, which is where they are hurting us. I propose a PAHOC (Put A Harness On Congress) amendment which will state that each member of Congress will be denied any and all income and/or benefits that result, directly or indirectly, from any legislation, regulation, rider or amendment which was enacted or adopted during any of his or her terms of office, if such benefits are

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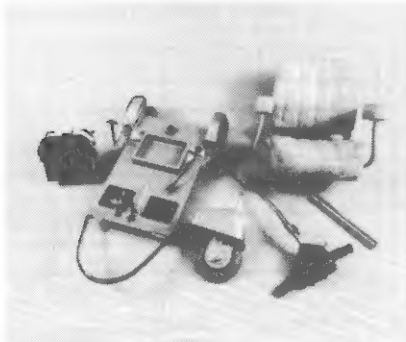
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MAIL CALL

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not equally or appropriately proportioned to all U.S. citizens. — *Orlando E. Vitullo, 44 Bridge St., Warren, R.I. 02885.*

American Veterans First

How can President Ronald Reagan have the nerve to ask for \$100 million for the "freedom fighters" in Nicaragua while cutting back funds for the VA? Our VA hospitals are full of our own freedom fighters to whom we still owe a debt, or does Reagan's "mandate" cover this? — *Wm. Pakenham, 32 Caldwell Place, Lackawanna, N.Y. 14218.*

Praises Post 6770

I would like to tell you about New Richmond, Ohio, VFW Post 6770, celebrating what I as mayor of the village consider a grand occasion, its 40th anniversary. I would like to tell the world how much I appreciate all the men in that Post, and how much I respect and hold them in the highest esteem. I wish I could tell the nation how much this group does for our community, the Post's involvement with all the charitable organizations, and the great patriotism its members manifest with our country, county and community. I have nothing but the highest praise for this group, because any time there is a civic activity or event these men are among the first to volunteer their services and participate. I hope this Post has many more anniversaries and I certainly am proud to know and work with such a great group of guys. — *Betty Hinson, Mayor, Village of New Richmond, Ohio 45157.*

Missouri Lottery

Now that Missouri has a state lottery and is receiving a lot of revenue, why not go after the State Legislature to get a bonus for World War II veterans. Price of cigarettes was raised more than 25 years ago to pay for it, and that was the last that was heard of the bonus. Missouri veterans should write their state representatives. — *Kenneth Doyle, Rt. 2, box 374, Lamar, Mo. 64759.*

LEGISLATIVE

Recent Testimony: At the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee confirmation hearing on the nomination of Thomas K. Turnage as VA administrator, the VFW noted Turnage's long and distinguished military career and urged him to use his strength and ability to ensure that no one will be permitted to usurp his authority or prerogatives as VA administrator. The VFW said it will support Turnage as administrator as long as he is a strong and effective veteran's advocate. Turnage was confirmed by the Senate a few days later.

Also at the hearing the VFW voiced its support of legislation that would raise the position of VA administrator to cabinet level. This action would be justified because the VA is the largest independent agency in the federal government and more than a third of the U.S. population is comprised of veterans and their dependents.

The VFW also supported before the House Veterans Affairs Committee H.R. 4384 that would extend and improve the Veterans' Readjustment Appointment Authority. The VFW noted to the Committee that approximately 250,000 Vietnam Era veterans have entered Civil Service under the VRA Program. Of this number, more than 80% have converted to career or career-conditional status. Because of this, the VFW urged the committee to extend the program until Dec. 31, 1991. Also expressed was VFW support of the bill's provisions to eliminate the educational restriction which prohibits a nondisabled Vietnam Era veteran from qualifying as a VRA appointee if he or she has over 14 years of education and the provision to increase the maximum entry level from GS-9 to GS-11. The VFW pointed out to the committee that a GS-11 position in most cases requires a college degree. To make the entry level increase meaningful, the current education restriction must be eliminated. Along with supporting the bill, the VFW made two suggestions to the committee: first, that the Office of Personnel Management provide to the VFW information showing at what GS level VRA applicants are being appointed to ascertain whether veterans are being underemployed in the VRA program; second, that the committee consider the name of the Veterans' Readjustment Program to not emphasize "readjustment," because the VFW believes a title stressing "career" would be more in keeping with the bill's provisions.

Balanced Budget Amendment Fails in Senate: In a recent vote by the Republican-controlled Senate, a Constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget was defeated 66 to 34, one vote short of the two-thirds necessary for passage. The Senate approved a similar amendment in 1982, but changes in Senate membership and the crossing of party lines were causes for the recent defeats.

Republicans and Democrats cited the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings law as a major factor in the amendment's defeat. Under Gramm-Rudman-Hollings, the U.S. is required to have a balanced budget within five years. Even key supporters of the amendment admitted that under Gramm-Rudman-Hollings a Constitutional amendment calling for a balanced budget was not necessary.

Amendment supporters vowed they would continue their efforts for passage, but a membership change in the Senate would be required before they could expect a victory.

Peacetime GI Bill in Trouble: As reported in VFW MAGAZINE (January), two days of hearings before a House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee left little doubt the new GI Bill is a demonstrated success. All branches of the Armed Forces testified to increased recruitment levels attributable directly to this valuable tool. Now, however, the Administration is calling for its abolishment.

House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery, in reviewing the President's proposed FY 1987 budget, was shocked that anyone would even consider killing such a successful program. He vowed to fight this attack but admitted he wasn't sure where to direct his efforts. The Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Defense and the White House itself all may be guilty of making this seriously flawed decision.

Termination of the new GI Bill would deprive the Armed Forces of a highly essential and successful tool in recruiting quality active and reserve members of the military. With the expensive conversion to this now completed, the Armed Forces are beginning to realize fully how effective an incentive it is for the recruitment and retention of the high quality individuals now required to man and operate the nation's sophisticated new weapons systems.

Additionally, switching back to the old educational program, VEAP, would cause widespread confusion and turbulence in the American public, and cause damage to the recruiting program in particular.

Chairman Montgomery and the VFW are not alone in the fight to retain the new GI Bill. Education, Training and Employment Subcommittee Chairman Thomas Daschle also has committed himself to joining the battle to retain the program. Also, a substantial number of Congressmen have sided with Montgomery.

SERVICE

Delays in Military Record Retrieval: National Veterans Service staff, aware of increasing difficulty in timely processing of some claims before VA because of delays in obtaining certain records from various record-holding centers, surveyed each VFW Department Service Officer in the country, then provided a list of

NEWS AFFECTING YOU

names and claim numbers of veterans who had been experiencing delays because of a failure to obtain military records to the director of the VA's Compensation and Pension Service. VA used that information to advise record centers of the problems encountered by some veterans. NVS is sensitive to the problem and alert to unnecessary delays.

JTPA Changes Recommended: Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration is not sensitive to the employment and training needs of veterans, the Washington Office staff learned at a recent hearing by the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee. The committee has responsibility for the Job Training Partnership Act. VFW Resolution 612 calls for modification of JTPA to ensure veterans' preference in employment and training programs. Letters from the VFW to the chairman of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, Secretary of Labor and the Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training called for legislative changes in JTPA that would enact veterans' preference in all JTPA titles; appoint a veterans' advocate to the state Job Training Coordination Council and the Private Industry Councils authorized by JTPA; include veterans' JTPA participation in recurring reports required by JTPA; adequately fund Title IVC JTPA, veterans' employment and training programs; and delete the proposed disproportionate FY 1986 Title IVC JTPA budget decision.

VA Doctors Honored: Three physicians have been appointed to the VA Distinguished Physicians Program, bringing to 12 the number of renowned specialists serving in these unique, full-time consultant roles. They are Drs. Helen M. Ranney, of San Diego, a hematologist, internist, teacher and administrator; Gene H. Stollerman, of Boston, a clinician, academic physician and internist; and Maurice Victor, of Cleveland, an internationally recognized neurologist, teacher and clinical investigator. Making the announcement, VA Chief Medical Director Dr. John W. Ditzler said, "The new appointments reaffirm VA's continuing commitment to excellence in all three missions of its health care system: clinical care, medical education and research."

SECURITY

Terrorist Attacks, a Year's Record: In the wake of the U.S. air strikes against Libya April 14, a review of terrorism over the past dozen months — from April 12, 1985, to April 5, 1986 — shows 20 occurred. Toll in these incidents: 138 killed and 652 wounded. Six took place in Paris, three in Frankfurt, one of these at Rhein-Main

Air Base, Athens and Rome, two in Madrid and one each in Vienna, West Berlin and in the Mediterranean. Groups from Libya, Syria, Tunisia, Iran and the Palestine Liberation Organization claimed responsibility for most, while others identified themselves with various organizations with unknown links. In the bombing of a West Berlin disco April 5 in which an American soldier and Turkish woman were killed, a Libyan group called the Anti-American Arab Liberation Front claimed responsibility.

Proposals to Reorganize Defense Department: Senate Armed Services Committee has completed its Defense Department reorganization plan, which closely parallels interim findings of Packard Commission. Both agree Secretary of Defense should be able to organize his office as he wants to, but they recommend establishment of the new post of Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition. His authority would be to set overall policy for procurement, research and development of weapons and equipment for all services. Packard Commission wants each service to establish a comparable position to carry out policies of new undersecretary. Commission also wants increased commercial competition and multi-year procurement programs for high-priced weapons. Differences exist between Senate committee and Packard Commission. Senate wants reductions in headquarters staffs and defense agencies by 18,000 and offers to cut the nearly 500 different reports made annually to Congress. Packard Commission suggests establishment of another military command to control all military air and sea transportation. Also, commission wants new policies to control government-industry accountability. Congress will have to take care not to rush through a hasty bill that compounds existing problems with new ones.

Philippine Mess, Phase II: New President Corazon Aquino has a lot of problems, which she must solve simultaneously. First are political difficulties. When Marcos fled, all government ministers, Marcos loyalists, walked away from their jobs. Their 17 replacements, largely from ranks of Marcos' opposition, are unfamiliar with their responsibilities or working harmoniously with each other. With Marcos gone, they may look to improving their political positions and their parties' rather than dealing with existing national crises. Mrs. Aquino now has suspended the constitution and declared a revolutionary government. Ruling by decree, she is doing what Marcos was accused of. Time is running out for Philippine economy. Half of the cash it can earn in a year already is dedicated to paying interest on loans from foreign banks. Unless government can renegotiate its foreign debt, prop up agricultural prices and reorganize monopoly system, Filipinos may take to streets to oust this government, too. As if all this were not enough, the Communist-led New Peoples Army has resumed and intensified its guerrilla war. Some analysts say NPA and its fronts are so strong they rival other institutions such as the government and Roman Catholic Church.

Home Salutes Hale

Maurice L. Hale, National Home Chairman, Department of Oklahoma, for the great work he is doing on behalf of the VFW National Home gets a salute.

Hale is making a special effort to get the word out about the Home's purpose and its needs by attending meetings at Post, District and State levels, handing out literature and discussing the National Home.

He says he has his greatest success on a person-to-person basis.

Some of his ideas for fundraising on behalf of the National Home are:

- At Post meetings, each member donates a quarter or more. When \$25 is collected, a drawing for a National Home Life Membership is held.

- Placing a piggy bank on the Post bar. Donations are used for purchasing a National Home Life Membership. Post 4878, of Tulsa, Okla., has purchased 21 Life Memberships by using this method.

- Several Posts and Auxiliaries purchase Life Memberships for outgoing or incoming officers or for special recognition for other members.

- Raffle tickets are sold at District meetings with the prize a Life Membership in the National Home.

- In the last 2½ years, the Department of Oklahoma has donated money to the VFW National Home for the purchase of items ranging from beef cattle to a tool set.

A special thank you is extended to each and every one who helped toward these contributors. The welfare of the children is uppermost, and the Home could not continue to do this work without such help.

VFW National Home Awards

The VFW National Home Board of Trustees has approved two new National Home Life Membership awards.

A 300-member award, now available for Posts and Auxiliaries with 300 Life Members on record at the National Home, is a goldtone plate mounted on a wooden background, both in the shape of the state where the Post and Auxiliary are located.

A 400-member award also was approved. It is in the form of an Athenian bronze plaque mounted on a wooden background.

These awards will be engraved in a manner similar to that of the 200-member plate. Counting for these awards will be done in the same way as for the 200-member award.

At present several awards are available to organizations having a specified number of VFW National Home Life Members.

A 10-member certificate is awarded for having ten Life Members. They must be for Post and Auxiliary, held in the organization name, or individual members, living or deceased. The certificate can be made for all Post, all Auxiliary, or a combination of the two. Associate members cannot be counted.

The 25-Member Charter is awarded for having 25 Life Members. Counting is done as for the 10-Member Certificate.

Awarded for 50 Life Members, held in the name of Post, Auxiliary, or individuals, is the 50-Member Banner. The individuals may be members of either the Post or Auxiliary or Associate members. Deceased individuals can be counted.

The 100-Member Plaque is awarded for having 100 Life Members. Counting is done as for the 50-Member Banner.

The 200-Member Gold Plate is awarded for 200 Life Members. Counting is done as for the 50-Member Banner. Additional recognition is given to organizations presented with this award. Their names are engraved on the Hall of Fame Plaque, which is on permanent display in the Administration Building lobby at the VFW National Home to be viewed by all visitors to the Home,

near Eaton Rapids, Mich.

Names of regular voting members are kept on record by Post and Auxiliary number. If you wish to have your Associate Members counted toward the awards, you will need to send to the VFW National Home a list of their names.

VFW National Home Facts

- The annual budget for the National Home in 1985-86 is \$4,250,000. Seals revenues were to cover almost \$2 million of that budget, but as of Feb. 28, only \$1.2 million was received. The \$700,000 gap leaves the day-to-day program in jeopardy.

- The National Home depends almost entirely on the support of VFW and Auxiliary members. It is a privately funded facility.

- A new method of Seals fundraising was utilized by the National Home Board of Trustees because the traditional approach was not producing the needed funds for the Home's day-to-day expenses. Less than 5% of the entire VFW and Auxiliary membership responded to the National Home Seals appeal this year.

- Costs at the National Home keep rising, just as they do where you live. Clothing, food, lawn mowers, the necessities of life get more expensive with each passing year. Insurance premiums, including liability, are steadily rising at the National Home just as everywhere else. Increased postage rates have a significant impact on National Home expenses. As the National Home gets more referrals of children or entire families in need, more funds are needed to cover costs.

- These cost-reducing measures have been implemented: All non-critical purchasing in unrestricted areas has been frozen; a freeze has been placed on hiring at the National

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Home, including non-critical replacement of vacated positions. For example, the position of chief accountant has not been filled, and that job is being absorbed into several other areas; the National Home Board of Trustees voted to cancel the annual Junior Vice Conference due to its costs —approximately \$50,000 — although it was a valuable public relations tool.

■ Although the National Home has an endowment fund of \$9 million, it is restricted in the National Home Bylaws; only the interest may be utilized for operational expenses. This interest covers 31% of the Home's annual revenue budget. All

monies received through the Life Membership Program, memorial contributions, designated wills, bequests and endowments are placed in the endowment fund, from which only the interest is available for use.

When money is donated to the National Home for a specific purpose, such as Indiana House or furniture or scholarship fund, that money is restricted for that use only. It cannot be transferred to another account to pay for day-to-day expenses.

Lower interest rates, while good for the consumer, have impacted on the National Home's income by reducing the earnings from the investment portfolio.

■ Oil and gas wells on National Home property will produce \$50,000 for fiscal year 1985-86, less than half of the \$119,000 realized in 1981. Reasons include depleting oil and gas resources as well as an oil glut on the international market.

■ An investment portfolio has been liquidated by the Board of Trustees to help cover 1985-86 operational expenses. Once a savings account is gone, it cannot help again.

■ Donations and other revenues are not keeping up with National Home expenses.

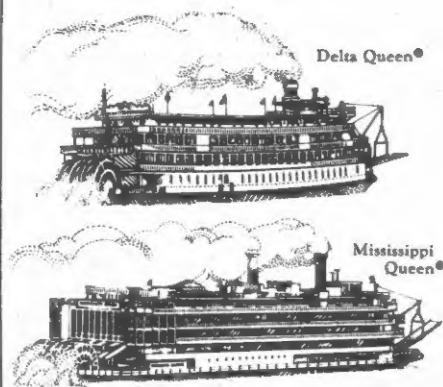
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VFW Charter Anniversary

May 28 marked the 50th anniversary of the signing into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt of a Congressional measure granting a charter to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

The charter bill was introduced by the late Sen. Matthew Neely (W. Va.) and Rep. Francis E. Walter (Pa.), and a certificate that the law was filed with the Department of State was issued on June 8, 1936.

The Congressional Charter granted several benefits to the organization, besides providing Congressional approval to the VFW's fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational purposes.

For example, the VFW was assured sole use of its name, corporate seal, emblems and badges. It received recognition in states where only Congressionally-chartered veterans' organizations are given special consideration that enables them to assist veterans.

Reporting on the added prestige the Charter afforded the organization, a writer in the July, 1936, Foreign Service, predecessor of VFW Magazine, said, "Thus, 37 years after its origin, the Gold Chevron Order still survives as a strong, ever-growing, perpetual organization. It has consistently increased in size and importance, and today it occupies an enviable position among the powerful and influential organizations of the country."

Named in the law as incorporators are James E. Van Zandt, Altoona, Pa.; Bernard W. Kearney, Gloversville, N.Y.; Scott P. Squyres, Oklahoma City; Robert B. Handy, Jr., Kansas City; Henry F. Marquard, Chicago; William E. Guthner, Denver; Edward J. Neron, Sacramento; Joseph C. Menendez, New Orleans; Paul L. Foulk, Altoona; Robert F. Kernodle, Kansas City; Walter I. Joyce, New York; George A. Ilg, Cranston, R.I.; James F. Daly, Hartford, Conn.; Charles R. Haley, Pittsburgh; F.C. Devericks, Clarksburg, W. Va.; John J. Skillman, Miami; Ellie H.

Schill, New Orleans; Gerald C. Mathias, Lagrange, Ind.; James W. Starner, Effingham, Ill.; Leon S. Pickens, Wichita, Kans.; Archie W. Nimens, Minneapolis; Harvey W. Snyder, Denver; Charles O. Carlston, San Francisco; Walter L. Daniels, Seattle; John E. Swaim, Tulsa, and Peter J. Rosch, Washington.

West Virginia Flood Relief

Flood relief in West Virginia provided by the Department of West Virginia to members whose homes were damaged or destroyed and to Posts for rebuilding their quarters has totalled nearly \$56,000.

Funds were distributed personally by Department Commander Albert M. Legg and Auxiliary State President Lilly McCoy on tours of the state's flood-stricken regions.

An earlier total of relief funds distributed showed \$38,000 had been provided flood victims on the basis of loss of their primary homes or the depth of water in their homes.

The final accounting of \$55,681 includes \$11,756 given Posts 3008, Rowlesburg; 4322, Parsons; 578, Harman, and 9606, Moorefield for the rebuilding of Post homes. Each of the four Posts received \$2,939.

Posts throughout West Virginia contributed to the flood relief fund. They were joined by National Headquarters, which donated \$10,500; Post 2562, Silver Spring, Md., \$5,577; Department of the District of Columbia, \$733, and Past Judge Advocate Gen. Larry Rivers, \$500.

New GI Bill Successful

More than 125,000 military recruits and reenlistees have elected to participate in the New GI Bill since its inception in July, 1985, according to statistics compiled by the Army.

As of March 31, more than 107,000 recruits, representing 51% of the total eligibles in all branches of the active components — Army, Air

Force, Navy, Marine Corps — had chosen to participate. In addition, as of last February, 17,583 members of the National Guard and Reserve had applied to the Veterans Administration for benefits under the program.

"It's obvious that we've got a winner on our hands," said Rep. G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery, who authored and developed the New GI Bill. "This program provides an option for thousands who otherwise might not have been able to afford college or receive technical training. They have an opportunity to further their education and the satisfaction of knowing that it was earned in service to their country."

Korean War Chopper Fund

Korean War veterans who remember the service rendered by helicopters there more than three decades ago might be interested in contacting James E. Mowry, 3233 Gano St., Houston, Texas 77009.

He is treasurer of the H-19C Museum Fund, which is raising money to purchase an H-19 Sikorsky for display at the Army Aviation Museum at Fort Rucker, Ala.

Mowry's organization, made up of Korean War pilots, is called Ichiban Flight and is composed of veterans of the Army's 6th and 13th Transportation Helicopter Cos.

Using H-19Cs, they moved troops, resupplied infantry and artillery positions and transported supplies after arriving early in 1953.

Mowry says veterans of the 2nd, 3rd and 7th Infantry Divisions might be especially interested in the project since those units were the major ones aided by the helicopters.

"The exchange of sick and wounded during Operation Little Switch in April, 1953, was notable in that all the former prisoners of war were flown by H-19Cs from the UN Freedom Village to the 121st Evacuation Hospital near Seoul or hospital ships in Inchon harbor," he writes.

Visit St. Paul

ST. PAUL, the other half of the Twin Cities, for a world of reasons, is surprising and simple to understand, a city of personal warmth and cultural sophistication, a city wealthy with historic tradition and now thrust forward as a dynamic, vital city to visit.

And delegates to the 87th VFW National Convention being held in nextdoor Minneapolis will have a chance to visit St. Paul for the fun of it when business sessions are over at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Seven St. Paul hotels have been reserved for National Convention delegates and their families.

In order to register for the 87th National Convention, use the accompanying coupon. If you do, you will save two dollars on the registration

fee. Posts also are reminded that they are required by the National By-laws to register at least one delegate to the National Convention. This By-law change was adopted in 1977 at the 78th National Convention which was held in Minneapolis.

Scenic serenity, upscale attractions, charm, class, rare smalltown caring for visitors. These are all St. Paul.

Stroll North America's most extensive climate-controlled skyway system — 14 blocks of above traffic, all-weather, glass-enclosed pedestrian concourse — to shopping, dining and entertainment downtown.

Step back in time to a river ride on a Mississippi sternwheeler or into the future at the magnificent Minnesota Science Museum, with its William L. McKnight 3M Omnitheater,

the most advanced audio-visual theater in the world.

Or browse and shop at Town Square, two city blocks long and one city block wide, an enclosure of 60 retail shops, two office towers, more than a dozen restaurants and Town Square Park. This world's largest indoor park features grass, trees, flowers, waterfalls and picnic areas located in the heart of the complex. The new solar-heated Radisson Plaza Hotel is part of the Town Square Project.

Soon on the horizon from Downtown will rise the new World Trade Center and its Mall leading directly to the State Capitol. The Capitol, with its Cass Gilbert architecture and panoply of art, is a must on any visitor's agenda.

Delegates to the National Conven-



Minneapolis Convention

tion, if they visit St. Paul, should make sure to stop by the State Capitol to see the POW/MIA flag flying from the center pole, raised on March 26 to replace the United Nations flag. Forty-eight POW/MIAs are from Minnesota, and at the flag-raising ceremony, Gov. Rudy Perpich said it will fly from the Capitol until all POW/MIAs are accounted for.

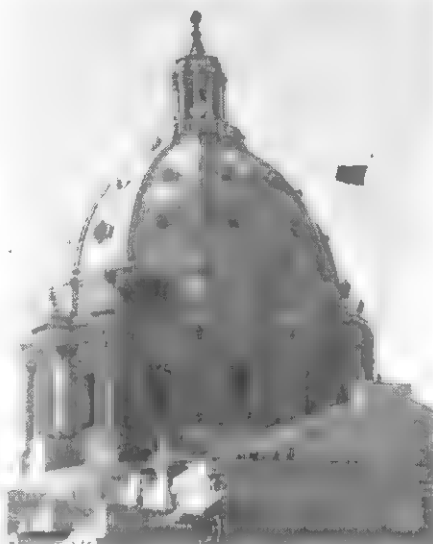
Downtown St. Paul is a "Treasure Island" of architectural richness. Four Downtown walking tours can be taken for a better feel of St. Paul's architectural heritage. The walks take one through the area that grew around the bustling frontier river port, the site of past and present St. Paul government, the site of Minnesota's early state capitols and the city's railroad and manufacturing center.

A special block downtown now commands esthetic and cultural attention. The architectural and acoustical splendor of the Ordway Music Theatre, the Landmark Center, with its colonnades and marble, the elegant and stately St. Paul Hotel and the magnificent Main Library — each faces peaceful Rice Park.

The newly renovated Roy Wilkins Auditorium, a part of the multi-function St. Paul Civic Center complex, provides subtle yet impressive attention-to-people-details, even as it can accommodate thousands. Its spectacular 30-foot-high lobby window immediately attunes visitors to the panoramic view of the surprising world of St. Paul.

Visitors can enjoy the sports of all seasons, or the colorful changing seasons, or a flower show in any season at charming Como Park Conservatory. They can hear the renowned St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, travel on the Mississippi on an authentic paddleboat, see a Minnesota Vikings or Minnesota Twins game or view life at Fort Snelling, a restored 1819 Army installation.

The nationally acclaimed "Prairie Home Companion" radio show, with



Last March Gov. Rudy Perpich ordered the POW/MIA flag flown from the State Capitol in St. Paul until all are accounted for or returned. It replaced the United Nations flag.

best-selling author Garrison Keillor, originates in St. Paul each Saturday from a downtown theater.

As you spend time in this surprising city, you can visit the Minnesota Zoo, which features 1,200 animals and 2,000 plant varieties in open, landscaped exhibits that resemble

the animals' natural habitats. Or investigate the restored Alexander Ramsey House, a late Victorian period home named after the state's first territorial governor, or the St. Paul Arts and Science Center, with its Chimera Theatre, or numerous historical buildings, including the St. Paul Cathedral, Governor's Mansion, St. Paul City Hall and Courthouse, with its famous Carl Milles onyx, three stories tall "Indian God of Peace," and the Sibley House Museum, home of Minnesota's first governor.

The cuisine in St. Paul is delightful, too. Many fine restaurants right in downtown cater to every taste. Hotels, special sites such as Lower-town, with its specialty restaurants featuring Thai, Chinese, Italian, German, French and American cuisine, and the city's business, retail and neighborhood locations offer a variety that rivals the country's best.

Cultural, recreational and educational offerings are part of St. Paul's recent development. The variety will surprise and delight. Once you visit, you will remember St. Paul as up-to-date, intriguing and yet homey. It's like coming home every time you visit — for a world of reasons. ■

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City State Zip

Teamwork: The Heart of Our National Spirit

By Terry Frazier

In August, 1967, I lay behind the dike of a rice paddy, pinned down by a hail of fire from an NVA ambush. Our 101st Airborne company had stumbled into the base camp of an NVA battalion, a short chopper ride west of Chu Lai. My platoon was surrounded, trapped on the enemy's side of the river, the rest of our company unable to reach us. We were out of grenades, out of M-79 rounds, the C-4 used up, the M-60s were burnt up, and only a quarter of our M-16s were still working. Out of 24 men, six would die, the rest would be wounded, some seriously.

When I would tell people the story of the day I lost my legs to enemy mortar fire, they would say I was lucky to get out alive. But I have never been comfortable with that assessment. It wasn't luck that crawled to my side, applied tourniquets to my legs, and counseled me to try to stay alive. It wasn't luck that crossed the river under heavy enemy fire, loaded me onto a poncho and carried me back across the river. It wasn't luck that flew a slick through mortar blasts and machine gun fire to get me to a field hospital. It wasn't luck that repaired the damaged flesh, tied off the severed arteries, and kept me breathing. It wasn't luck that gave me an extra chance at life. It was teamwork.

Even at the time, I remember being awed by the courage and dedication of the many people involved in saving my life, often at the risk of their own. That was, of course, a dramatic example of teamwork at its finest, at its most noble and heroic. If there is one thing the military deserves credit for above anything else, it is the way it brings out the selflessness in people, the willingness to risk all to give someone else a chance, a chance for

freedom, a chance for life.

The 19th anniversary of the day my comrades risked their all for me will be on Aug. 25. Each year on this day, I seek a few hours of solitude so that I can reflect on that incredible day, recall in detail the events which changed my life, and those which saved my life. It's the day I mourn the loss, not of my legs, but of the medic who saved my life and lost his own. But my meditation usually runs the course of a good funeral. A good funeral is one in which you leave with good feelings about a deceased friend. You arrive at the funeral in a state of sadness and loss, but you leave with strong impressions of the good that person did in life.

By midnight of each Aug. 25, I usually have recalled the battle, the pain, the rescue, the heroism of my company, the painful process of recovery, and the major events of my life right up to the moment. Each year, the meditation finds a particular focus. Last year, though, was the best, for the meditation brought me to a new awareness of a common thread running through all the events of my life. Since losing my legs, I have prided myself on making the best of a life that others often considered ruined. Rather than succumb to self-pity or resentment, I have been grateful to have a second chance at life. I have tried to accomplish as much as possible, but I realize I have accomplished nothing. We, however, have accomplished much. Everything I have managed to do has been a result of teamwork.

During my recovery, I became a guinea pig for the Army physical therapists who wanted to see what amputees could do, especially in health-preserving recreational sports. Along with a dozen or so one-

legged volunteers, I learned to ride horses, swim, scuba dive, play wheelchair basketball, waterski, and snowski. While I received the kudos for these activities, the successes were the result of the combined efforts of therapists, doctors, prostheticians, journalists, sports instructors, merchants and other concerned citizens. During this period, I met a beautiful girl who, in becoming my wife, became my team leader.

When I went back to school, it was a team effort involving my family, the Veterans Administration for counseling and financial support, willing, supportive faculty and helpful fellow students. That was such a good experience that I stayed in school for as long as possible, but they kick you out after you get a Ph.D., so I had to find a job. Now, I'm an English professor, trying to extend the same kind of moral and intellectual leadership that benefited me.

After we moved to North Carolina, I discovered the sport of soaring. I had always wanted to be a pilot, but I put those dreams aside when I lost my legs. The first time I went for a ride in a glider, I was hooked. I knew that I had to learn to fly those silent, graceful planes. On my way to Bermuda High Soaring in Chester, S.C., to arrange for lessons, I expected to meet strong resistance to the idea of my taking lessons. Instead, I was greeted with a hearty welcome. Fred MacFawn, the owner, a WWII fighter pilot, embraced the challenge. He said there would be problems, but that we should take a flight, identify the problems and solve them. The main problem concerned the rudder conventionally operated by pushing on pedals with one's feet. The following day, I returned with my walking legs (which I rarely wear) and we started the lessons. I soloed using the walking legs, then I was able to

convince the VA to sponsor a special set of small, lightweight "flying legs," designed specially for use in gliders. Teamwork. My enthusiastic flight instructor, a cooperative FAA examiner, a helpful Veterans Administration and a concerned and skilled prosthetician made it possible for me to fly like an eagle in a plane powered by sunlight.

After two years of soaring the skies in low-performance rental gliders, I was champing at the bit to fly racing sailplanes. They are handmade, fiberglass, state-of-the-art machines made by German craftsmen. Pilots race them around courses of 80 to 500 miles, often across hostile terrain, through mountains and over swamps, always pushing for the highest speed. The newer models even have special bags in the wings to carry 30 to 50 gallons of water; the additional weight helps the glider achieve higher speeds. Unfortunately, these racing planes cost as much I earn in a year. So if I was going to race, I'd have to find a source of support.

I decided to try to find a sponsor for my flying, a company that could profit from my visibility as a racing pilot. Since no other seriously handicapped pilots were racing gliders, I would be an original. Also, this is the only sport I've seen in which a handicapped man can compete on an equal basis with "normal" people. Once I'm installed in the cockpit, I'm on an equal footing with any other pilot. It's only on the ground that I'm "handicapped."

I wrote letters to dozens of companies proposing the sponsorship arrangement, asking for just enough help to get started in the sport. After a year of rejections, I had the good fortune to meet Mal Mixon, presi-



Terry Frazier and "Sierra Romero."

dent of Invacare Corp., of Elyria, Ohio. Invacare makes wheelchairs and other products for the handicapped, and I had never heard of the company. I discussed the sponsorship concept with Mixon, and he liked the idea of launching the first handicapped pilot into competition. I clinched the sponsorship when the company promised to extend its helping hand by conducting Soarathons, in which I fly cross-country to raise money for charities, such as the March of Dimes and the American Cancer Society. Now, thanks again to teamwork, I'm racing four weeks a year in a beautiful fiberglass racer, aptly named "The Invacare Challenge."

Racing a sailplane, like everything else, requires teamwork. My wife and children crew for me, helping assemble the glider at the airport, preparing it for each race day, and often retrieving the glider and me from fields and pastures where I've outlanded (failed to make it back to the airport). But sometimes I land where I need immediate help. Since I don't carry a wheelchair in the

glider, I often have to crawl to the nearest house or road for help. Each time this happens, I get to test the teamwork of American strangers, and each outlanding produces its own story.

Racing in Ionia, Mich., in my first national competition, I was forced to land 20 miles short of the airport one day. I landed in an alfalfa crop, about a quarter mile from the road. I hoisted myself onto the back of the glider and started waving my arms, hoping to catch the attention of a passing motorist. Fifteen minutes of this exercise proved futile, when, suddenly, I noticed the hum of a tiny motorcycle and spotted a man making his way through the alfalfa on a little dirt bike. As he got closer, I could see this character was either a Hell's Angel or a good impressionist. Dirty and dressed in leather, he looked as mean as could be, except for the little dirt bike. He pulled up beside my glider, shut off his engine, took off his helmet, looked at my amputated legs, wiped his brow and

continued on page 55

'We Must Fight Harder'



Enthusiasm, dedication, willingness — all those qualities manifested at the Senior Vice Commanders and Adjutants-Quartermasters conference at the Hyatt Regency in Kansas City April 18 to 21 will go far toward assuring the organization another year of membership growth and accomplishment for veterans and the nation's security.

A highlight of the conference was the dedication of the National Headquarters \$150,000 beautification project a block north of the VFW Building at one of Kansas City's major intersections, Linwood and Broadway.

The sweeping wall at the corner contains soil from battlefields where Americans fought and bears the words "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. National Headquarters." Facing the viewer, on the left, is the VFW Cross of Malta Emblem, and on the right is the Ladies Auxiliary emblem, which is similar to that of the VFW.

Over the VFW emblem flies from a flagpole the VFW purple and gold banner and opposite the VFW Ladies Auxiliary flag. Higher than the other two and in the center is the pole with the United States Flag. Landscaping of the area also has been completed.

Dedication ceremonies were conducted by Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab, Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Earl Stock, Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute,

Jr., Quartermaster Gen. Herbert Irwin and Ladies Auxiliary Secretary Treasurer Glenn Grossman.

Vander Clute said plans are being studied to honor Departments leading in the ten membership divisions by flying their state flags in the newly-beautified area each month.

Taking as his theme at the conference sessions "The VFW — The Rallying Force," Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Staab rallied his listeners as he pledged "to bring VFW programs forward and to move the VFW forward" during his leadership year, a period when the Department Senior Vice Commanders will be in command in their states.

"I will do all I possibly can to make your year the greatest year. We will go together."

Staab urged each Senior Vice Commander to get an early start with programs, especially membership, for this failure last year contributed to lagging membership returns in the first few months. He advised



that they set goals to outstrip last year's membership figures.

Using his own experience in Post 6240, Russell, Kans., Staab said that at one point the Post members thought their growth had reached its limit after producing five All American Commanders.

"Then they realized that nothing succeeds like success," he continued. "The secret is being willing to make the extra effort to achieve excellence."

At one time, when the potential was thought to be exhausted, the Post had 368 members, but now it has 1,174 of whom 1,062 are Life Members, he continued.

Reporting on developments in Washington as they affect veterans' legislation, Executive Director Cooper T. Holt, of the VFW Washington Office, said a new era faces veterans because of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit reduction amendment.

He said half of the total budget cuts under Gramm-Rudman-Hollings came from the Department of Defense budget. "It is easy to blame the federal deficit on defense, but Gramm-Rudman-Hollings is neither responsible government nor good policy."

For the VFW, "the emphasis will have to be on maintaining a strong national defense that secures American freedom and maintaining the integrity of the VA hospital and medical care program," he said.

"Because it is evident the battle is joined, the VFW will have to fight hard and sweat harder.

"Congress will have to recognize that the dead cannot be brought home to life or limbs restored. People have no idea what service means. We are dealing with cut-throat businessmen out to rape veterans' benefits.

"There is a move on in Washington to close VA hospitals and dismantle the VA," Holt declared. "That is the main purpose of the Grace Commission, and when I said we are in a new era, it is even more important that

the people in the Posts know what is going on."

Holt identified some of the other anti-veteran forces that would do away with veterans' benefits as the Office of Management and Budget, the Congressional Budget Office and the Heritage Foundation.

"Our only hope is to fight back with a strong membership."

Continuing, Holt said the VFW Washington staff is half the size of that of either the American Legion or the Disabled American Veterans, "but we take no back seat to any of them because we are doing a better job with fewer people."

Holt predicted that newly-appointed VA Administrator Thomas K. Turnage "will do what the Office of Management and Budget tells him. He has even asked why is it necessary to have liaison with veterans' service organization or to have lunch with their representatives every month."

"Without service backed by action, our backbone, we would be just another fraternal, patriotic association," he asserted.

National Legislative Director James N. Magill, reviewing VFW achievements over the past few months, cited its success in preventing taxation of disability compensation, as well as a Gramm-Rudman-Hollings original proposal to cut veterans' cost-of-living adjustments. Magill added that the VFW supports restoration of COLA for military, civil service and railway retirees, embodied in bills currently before Congress.

VFW's major victory in recent months, Magill said, was defeat of the Reagan Administration's proposed means test for non-service connected veterans seeking VA medical care by winning passage of the Montgomery-Hammerschmidt Bill that called for an income threshold

for a means test for VA medical care. (Details of its provisions are elsewhere in this issue in the Command Post column.)

"Now VA medical care for non-service connected veterans is an entitlement," he said. "It is written into the law."

"The VA has a big responsibility and deserves a budget adequate to fulfill those responsibilities," Magill continued. "We will be watching VA funding legislation with a keen eye."

Magill said one threat to the proposed monument to women who have served in American wars is a bill introduced by Rep. Morris K. Udall (Ariz.) that would prohibit erection of memorials honoring men or women or historical events in Washington's Planning Area 1, which is the portion of the city where the Vietnam Veterans Memorial is located and where the women's monument would be built. "We are asking opposition to Udall's bill," Magill said.

"People being elected to Congress now are not veterans, and they do not have the compassion for veterans that most of their predecessors had," he declared. "We encourage our VFW members to get to know their Congressmen and to make them aware of the positions of this organization on veterans' legislation and national security issues."

Director of National Security and Foreign Affairs Kenneth A. Steadman said the air raids on Libya demonstrated that fighting terrorism is a high priority matter, and it is hoped the message gets through to Iran, Iraq and Syria.

Steadman said the attack was a remarkable display of American skill since the planes came from three continents and rendezvoused exactly on schedule with split second accuracy.

"We can all be proud of the success," Steadman said. "With it come sobering thoughts. The war with terrorism is unconventional and requires unconventional means."

Turning to the POW/MIA issue,



Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab at Senior Vice Commanders' and Adjutant-Quartermasters' conference calls for continued VFW growth. To his left are Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Earl Stock and Quartermaster Gen. Herbert Irwin.

Steadman said as a result of the Libyan raids, Hanoi has cut off discussions with U.S. officials.

He said that 300 airmen may have been lost at sea when their planes crashed during the Vietnam War and their bodies have not been recovered. Nine hundred live sighting reports have been received in the past year.

"The government position is that there are live Americans in Vietnam, but in what capacity?" he added. "I would like to believe there are Americans there, and we will have to pursue the issue to its conclusion."

Another serious problem, he said, is the question of the impact of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings on military readiness. Under the deficit reduction amendment, strength of the Armed Forces will be cut by 300,000, the equivalent of the entire Marine Corps.

"After five years of building up, we will be sliding back," he said.

In Nicaragua, he continued, the Communists have achieved a strong position and will work to our disadvantage if nothing is done about it.

National Veterans Service Direc-

tor Frederico Juarbe said that since the inauguration of the four-phase training program for Service Officers, the recovery rate of claims by veterans from the VA has increased to \$601 million in the last ten-month period.

VA Volunteer Service VFW participants include 6,000 who have contributed more than a million hours of volunteer work, he said.

Employment of veterans remains a concern, as the VFW issues challenges to the Department of Labor to do more for veterans, Juarbe said.

The VA's Department of Veterans Benefits will be reduced by Gramm-Rudman-Hollings by 700 personnel this year and next so that by 1991 a total of 14,000 could be lost, he asserted.

"Now 37,000 eligible veterans are being turned away each month when they seek VA health care," Juarbe declared. "Where do they go? There are too many out there who need care and they need the VA system."

Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Stock said the "VFW was organized for service to veterans, and all of us are concerned about cuts in educational benefits, health care and many other programs. But we like to think positive.

"We know that success means work, and we have work to do. We pledged to Commander-in-Chief John Staum that we would have another successful year, and if we are to have a successful organization, we must work constantly."

Stock advised the Senior Vice Commanders to develop a plan for each of their Departments for 1986-87 that will be "workable, feasible and practical" to achieve success.

The VFW National Home is faced with a variety of problems, Dr. Theodore Wilson III, its executive director, said, because "we are dealing with people who need help, and I know that in every state you have families in trouble. Make contact with them because the chances are they do not know about the VFW National Home."

Post Development Director Joe

continued on page 55

CAPTAIN EDDIE

His Legend Lives

He was a crowd-pleasing, death-defying pre-WWII auto racetrack driver of national renown. He went to France and returned home as ace of valiant American flying aces who pursued and defeated the Red Baron's Flying Circus. He became owner of the Indianapolis 500 brickyard race track and later president of Eastern Airlines. He was missing in the South Pacific for 23 days in WWII and came home to write about the harrowing life raft ordeal for seven survivors.

The legend of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker lives on whenever victories of WWI's Hat in the Ring 94th Aero Squadron, in pursuit of the Red Baron over French and German battlelines, are recalled.

Or when WWII veterans gather and someone asks: "Remember when Eddie Rickenbacker was missing in the South Pacific for about three weeks? I was."

Rickenbacker died on July 23, 1973 in Zurich, Switzerland, while on vacation. A heart attack felled him at 82.

That 1973 day of finality had arrived, of which Capt. Eddie remarked a decade before:

"I've cheated the Grim Reaper more times than anyone I know. And I'll fight like a wildcat until they nail the lid of my pine box down on me!"

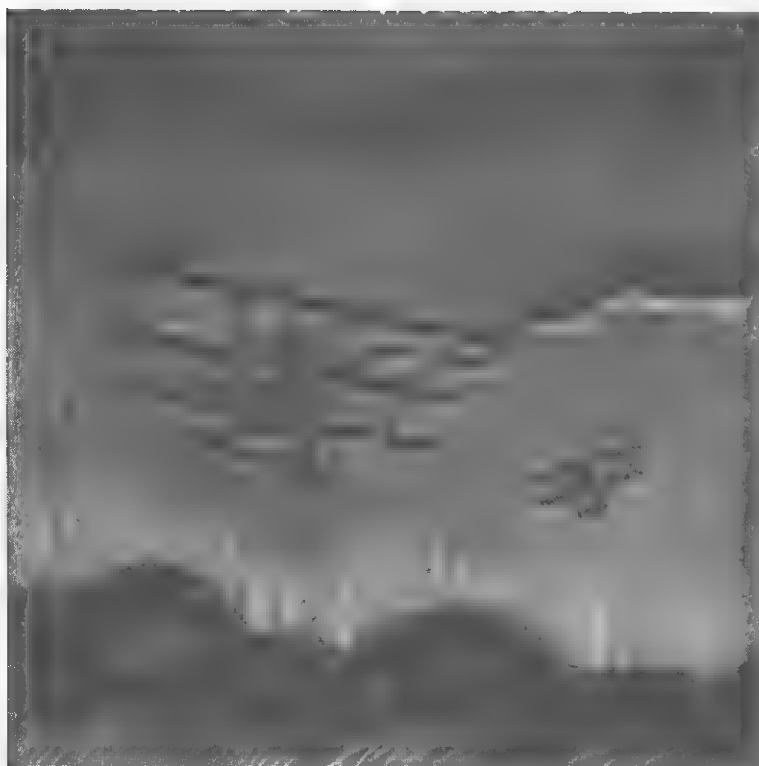
The Medal of Honor recipient had in mind tense exploits like diving his Nieuport fighter into a formation of the Flying Circus of Baron Manfred von Richthofen. There was Capt. Eddie pressing toward his ultimate 26 aircraft and observation balloon kills above the Western Front when the scene was far from quiet.

Or in February, 1941, when he survived a DC-3 commercial airplane crash near Atlanta. His injuries prevented him from later obtaining a WWII commission in the U.S. Army Air Corps.

Rickenbacker had in mind the "nearness of death" when he and members of a B-17 bomber crew were rescued from the South Pacific. The WWII ace was on a special fact-finding mission for Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson.

"I know I came within hearing distance of the Old Fellow this trip because his approach is always unmistakable. One hears beautiful, soft music. And everything is extremely pleasant, just like Heaven should be," Rickenbacker was to report when safely back home.

It was Rickenbacker who, after he and



seven crewmen took to life rafts that fateful 1942 day, Oct. 21, soon had them following him in prayer. He used a crew member's pocket-sized military Bible chaplains issued to WWII service personnel.

At times during his 82 years on Planet Earth, daredevil in the air above it, or roaring over racetracks as a leading money winner, Capt. Eddie was known to tease the Grim Reaper a little, too.

There is in "Rickenbacker, An Autobiography," his mention of December, 1920, when he became California distributor for the newly-introduced four-cylinder Sheridan motor car. He was the first zone supervisor to cover his dealerships in an airplane.

In his initial year, Rickenbacker organized 27 dealers who sold more than 700 Sheridans to pioneering motorists.

Rickenbacker flew to a city, was picked up there by a dealer at a grassy cow pasture outside town and they were off on their Sheridan sales promotion. A little air show by Capt. Eddie did marvelously well to draw the crowd, too.

One of those California auto dealers was an ex-WWI sailor, Durlin B. Hackett, 87, now a Tucson, Ariz., resident. Recently, Hackett dusted off a humorous Rickenbacker anecdote, little known in the legend.

"I was the Sheridan car dealer in Palo Alto, near the Stanford campus," Hackett told the writer. "Rickenbacker contacted me to pick him up at the little airport just north of Palo Alto. . . at Redwood City."

In a shiny new Sheridan, Hackett drove five miles north, met Rickenbacker and that night sat next to him during a Palo Alto civic banquet. And substantiating how at times he could tease the Grim Reaper, Capt. Eddie told the crowd:

"One day I had a young fella in the rear cockpit just for a local flight. He had been helping me around the hangar but had never been up in a plane and was always asking when I'd take him flying."

The WWII ace put his helper through a real wing-ding of a flight. Barrel rolls, loops, wing-overs, lazy eights and a tailspin or two, tricks he had perfected in combat as life-saving maneuvers. A big crowd had gathered below.

"I said to my passenger, 'I'm going to nosedive this airplane right toward that crowd and let's watch them scatter!'" Rickenbacker did just that. The crowd dashed off in fright as the plane climbed back into the blue.

Above the engine's drone, Capt. Eddie shouted back:

"I bet 50 percent of the people down there



thought we were going to crash!"

Newly baptized now to the thrills of flight, his helper shouted in reply: "I don't know about those people down there, Captain! But 50 percent of the people in this airplane thought the same thing!"

At times a newspaper item would mention that Rickenbacker was "staff driver" for Gen. John J. Pershing, AEF commander in France. "The truth is that I never did drive for the general," said the pilot.

Rickenbacker was, however, a frequent staff driver for Col. Billy Mitchell. And one day he told Mitchell, "Anyone can drive this car. I'd appreciate the opportunity to learn to fly." Mitchell moved the paper work involved.

After 25 hours of flying instructions in 17 days, 1st Lt. Rickenbacker was assigned to the Signal Corps flying service as a rookie pilot, yearning for combat.

On March 6, 1918, Rickenbacker launched his combat flying, in the cockpit of an unarmed aircraft in an element of three patrol planes over German lines. "Watch out for Archie!" veteran pilots warned the neophyte airman. He meant ack-ack, which Rickenbacker weathered often before Armistice Day.

The 94th Aero Squadron records show that on April 28, 1918, Rickenbacker and a pilot listed only as Capt. Hall were credited with knocking an enemy Albatross monoplane out of the sky over Baussant.

Capt. James Norman Hall, the 94th's squadron commander, later was shot down and captured by the Germans. Rickenbacker replaced him as squadron commander later, his promotion coming on his daring at close range with enemy aircraft. After WWI, Hall became co-author with Charles Nordhoff of "Mutiny on the Bounty," "Pitcairn's Island" and "Men Against the Sea."

Rickenbacker and von Richthofen. Their names sounded alike, but the Red Baron was in combat long before the American and had 80 aircraft downed before he was killed in action on April 21, 1918, seven days before Rickenbacker's first victory.

A Fokker aircraft flying the Circus colors fell from the sky on Oct. 30, 1918, marking Rickenbacker's 26th and final victory.

Capt. Eddie was mustered out with the rank of major. "I never used the title. I felt that my rank of captain was earned and deserved," said the leading ace who brought home 56 decorations.

Some readers will remember the mid 1920s' Rickenbacker automobiles, Broughams, Phaetons, and Super Sport Coupes, manufactured before his company failed in 1927.

In 1935, however, after he paid off his auto company debts, Rickenbacker signed aboard with Eastern Airlines. He was president when he retired in 1963. During his tenure, he found time in WWII to serve as an Army Air Corps civilian adviser. During special global assignments Capt. Eddie was remembered and cheered by countless service personnel whose memories included his stellar WWI flying prowess.



he was known then, and "Hat in the Ring"

continued on page 55

MICHIGAN'S

“THIS flag dips to no earthly king.”

With those words, Ralph W. Rose was to proclaim an American principle enshrined later in the U.S. Flag Code.

The enormous stadium, filled to its 70,000 capacity, was located on London's outskirts where the Franco-British Exposition held sway — plus the 1908 International IV Olympiad!

Monday, July 13, King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra were there with the royal entourage. At a signal, the crowd hushed while the monarch made his pronouncement that officially declared the games open.

Again, cheers and the competitive vocal spirit overtook spectators as they scanned the scene before them, the 660-yard concrete cycling track. Within it was the five-lap-to-the-mile cinder track for running events.

Nearby inside the oval, something was drawing ooohs and aaahs — the 100-meter swimming pool. To describe the pool as Olympic size is redundant. But to explain that the uniquely designed diving tower would disappear from sight when not in use is still something newsworthy almost eight decades later. The crowd applauded the disappearing act demonstration.

Moments after the official opening, through a gate in the stadium wall, 1,000 athletes and officials representing 18 countries marched in smartly along the concrete track, moving toward the area where royalty sat.

EACH nation's flag bearer was out front. As teams drew abreast of King Edward, standard bearers swung flags toward His Royal Highness and slowly dipped them toward him while passing, raising them then and marching onward amid cheers from the throng.

Then, Olympians from the United States approached. Proudly carrying Old Glory for America was a giant of a man, Ralph W. Rose, of the



FLAGMAN

By
Dan B. McCarthy

University of Michigan. The 6-foot, 6 inch athlete would later win gold and silver medals in weight events.

The Michigan Alumnus reported in its June, 1984, issue:

“In the 1908 London Olympics, a last minute substitution resulted in Ralph Rose carrying the U.S. Flag in opening ceremonies. However, as Rose passed Britain's monarch, he refused to dip the U.S. Flag.” Later, Rose said: “This Flag dips to no earthly king.” Rose turned toward King Edward, the Flag upright, flapping in the breeze; then Rose continued on past the stands.

Henceforth, a tradition was established in U.S. Olympic teams' participation in the Parade of Nations. The U.S. Flag was no longer dipped to any nation's monarch or president.

Today, in the United States Statutes at Large, part 1, section 4, (1940, Vol. 56) you will find:

“That no disrespect should be shown to the Flag of the United States of America; the Flag should not be dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, state flags and organizational or institutional

flags are to be dipped as a mark of honor.”

Ralph Waldo Rose established such Olympiad respect for the Flag. Also, after those games ended, the Wolverine weight-man brought home a gold medal in the shotput: distance, 46 feet, 7½ inches. He was a champion!

In the 1904 Olympics in St. Louis, Rose had taken first place with a longer heave — 48 feet, 7 inches. In the 1912 Olympiad V in Stockholm Rose again won the gold in shotput. Using both hands, he heaved the 16-pounder 90 feet, 5¾ inches.

Stockholm games reports include: “The new weight events, in which the best performances with right and left hands were totaled, proved a runaway for Finland and Sweden, excepting the shotput, won by Ralph W. Rose, of the U.S.A.”

Rose was a teammate in Stockholm of the great Jim Thorpe, from the Carlisle, Pa., Indian School. When King Gustav called Thorpe “the greatest athlete in the world,” Thorpe reportedly replied to King Gustav's accolade, “Thanks, King!”

ROSE attended the Michigan law school from 1905 to 1908. But the Heraldsburg, Calif., native returned to California without graduating.

Then, tragedy felled the young, robust Olympian. Oct. 16, 1913, at 28, Ralph Rose died, a victim of typhoid fever. One newspaper reported in its headline deck: “Unable to Fight Fever.”

In reportorial language of that era, the obituary's lead was:

“Ralph Rose, holder of Olympic and world's records for shotputting, died here [San Francisco] today of typhoid fever after a brief illness. Rose was a big, florid, full-blooded man of the type typhoid finds rich soil. From the first, his battle against the disease was not encouraging to his physicians.”

After mentioning his U-M studies,

the obituary continued, "He returned to California, studied law, was admitted to the bar and had been a practicing attorney since."

Dr. Caroline A. Ryan, of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, explained recently:

"In the early part of this century typhoid fever was transmitted by water, dairy products, especially milk; shellfish and a variety of miscellaneous foods."

She said the annual incidence of typhoid fever has been in steady decline since 1900 because of regulations on pasteurization of dairy products; and later, iceboxes and refrigerators were becoming accessible, plus improved foodhandling practices in the food service industries.

DURING Rose's three Olympic performances, he won three gold and two silver medals and one bronze medal in shotput and discus events.

Ensian, the University of Michigan yearbook for 1904-05, reviewed the Wolverine's track season. "At the beginning of the second semester, Ralph Rose came to us from California. He is probably the greatest weightman the country ever produced and helped Michigan win more than one meet by his splendid work." At that point Rose held the world's shotput record of 49 feet, 6 inches. He also held the U-M hammer throw record of 158 feet, 3 inches; and the U-M Western Intercollegiate first place honors for the discus, 125 feet, 3 inches.

Ensian editors, in passing out kudos to U-M thinclads, added, "It is safe to say that 1904 was the greatest track season that Michigan ever had." Rose swept firsts with meets against Chicago, Western Intercollegiate Tourney, First Regiment, the Penn Relays and a sprinkling of others.

Curiously enough, in the Cornell meet, Rose appeared only in shotput

exhibition tosses. He lofted one downfield at 48 feet, 3½ inches. The first place winner in the meet was measured for a 41-foot, 1-inch throw.

Archie Hahn, with whom Rose is seen in a photograph accompanying this article, also won three Olympiad gold medals as a dash man of brilliance. U-M records show that Hahn beat a racehorse in a 50-yard dash. Later, as track coach at the University of Virginia, it was said of him:

"He was never too busy to stop and help a youngster."



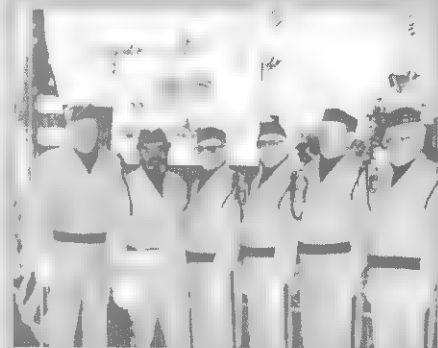
Many record-holding athletes in Olympic, collegiate and professional sports have said more than once: Records are made to be broken.

So it is that Rose's best shotput distances, recalled today, pale in the 16-pound shotput's gold medal toss during the Los Angeles 1984 Olympiad. Alessandro Andrei, of Italy, won his tremendous toss of 69 feet, 9 inches!

Records notwithstanding, Rose's marks set in hammer throw and discus, too, have been eclipsed.

But, as International Olympiad Committee games come and go, one event never will be outclassed during the classic, colorful Parade of Nations openers: Ralph Waldo Rose's world-renowned patriotic courage, when he chose not to dip the Stars and Stripes to any earthly person. ■

Flag Day, U.S.A.



Honor Guard of Post 6498, Milwaukee, stands at attention in front of a picture of the new 22-cent stamp unveiled and put on sale first at Waubeka, Wis., home of the Flag Day.

Old Glory, our national heritage became the nation's flag in 1777, but only since 1916 has Flag Day been observed across the United States. On Saturday, June 14, the Stars and Stripes will wave again in village and megalopolis because the Flag symbolizes this nation's patriotic unity.

Waubeka, Wis., known as "the birthplace of Flag Day," is where Dr. Bernard Cigrand, a Waubeka resident, sparked the idea of a special day to honor the Stars and Stripes. He led the cause that culminated in President Woodrow Wilson's proclamation authorizing the first Flag Day observance on June 14, 1916.

During Waubeka's 1960 Flag Day observance, then Department Commander Carl M. Batcha told the town's crowd:

"Our Flag symbolizes the ideals we fought for, and it should be our aim to do everything in our power to make sure it is given the respect and honor it deserves."

Then, last year Waubeka was the scene of the unveiling of the new 22 cent stamp that proudly bears Old Glory.

Two Battlefields

By David E. Wilke

For Americans, the Vietnam experience was actually two wars, one fought in the rice paddies, jungles and mountains of Southeast Asia and the other in United States streets and on college campuses.

Here are the reflections of two Chicago area men who knew and fought the war on these two different "battlefields."

"We won," says Bob Anderson when he speaks about Vietnam. "From the first, we achieved every military objective we had. It's just too bad we didn't stay to finish the job. You know, we probably could have done it, too, with only 100,000 troops instead of 500,000 we finally had there."

A native Chicagoan who now drives a city bus, Anderson admits that when he enlisted in the Army at 17 his political awareness was limited.

"I had a basic idea of what was going on, although after 13 months in Nam, that idea became clearer."

While serving with a special rescue team for 11 months, Anderson was wounded in the back and later recommended for the Silver and Bronze Stars, which he declined.

"Special Rescue brought you as close to battle as you could ever hope to get," he said. When choppers would come back from their missions, we'd go after the ones shot down just before landing. Lots of times we'd have to walk straight through mine fields to get those machines and the guys inside."

After the war, Anderson flirted briefly with the idea that maybe Vietnam was a mistake.

"I read and read some more, as well as thought about what had happened during that early part of my life." Some of his reading even

included reviewing military aid contracts between the United States and the government of South Vietnam.

He says the terms of those contracts confirmed his thinking about the high level of military success reached by American troops and the ARVN, the acronym for South Vietnam's army.

Anderson strongly believes the ARVN forces could have proven victorious finally if the United States had not pulled out.

After his discharge in 1972, he had little difficulty in joining occasional counter-demonstrations against peace groups and former anti-war activists.

During a Chicago appearance by actress Jane Fonda, he stood with others on the sidewalk in front of Marshall Field's downtown store making certain his message of "we won" was understood. (VFW Resolution 311 calls for a boycott of Fonda's performances and publications.)

While the war raged in Vietnam, and the streets and campuses of America exploded with anti-war protestors, a group of Polish-American students, some of them recent emigres, quietly made their own determined statement about events in Southeast Asia.

A sandy-haired youth from Poland, Chris Rac, was one of several students at the Circle Campus of the University of Illinois in Chicago who responded to arguments that the United States withdraw from Vietnam.

Armed with a conviction born of experience, the group set out, as if on patrol, to blanket Circle and other campuses with thousands of fliers.

"We started our work in the late 1960s and continued right through the first part of the 1970s," Rac remembers. He still takes considerable pride in the effort's spontaneity.

"Some of us already knew each other through the Polish Club on campus," he recalls. "Many, like myself, were born in Poland. It seemed we had a built-in advantage over just about everybody else at school because we knew Communism firsthand. We were of one mind to put this knowledge to work."



While the war raged in Vietnam, and the streets and campuses of America exploded with anti-war protestors, a group of Polish-American students, some of them recent emigres, quietly made their own determined statement about events in Southeast Asia.

This meant that Rac, now a successful mechanical engineer working in Chicago, would help pull together an organization to describe how Vietnam could easily become like any East or Central European country living under Soviet domination.

In describing tactics he says, "We used the example of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, and the Soviet crushing of the 'Prague Spring' of 1968 to let people know how totalitarianism really works. Our appeal was highly moral. We were asking for local support of the war because we didn't want the people of South Vietnam to suffer the fate of so many of our relatives and friends still in Europe.

"There wasn't any physical confrontation or anything like that, but plenty of hot words flew. The other side just didn't want to hear that the U.S. might be right in wanting to defend freedom half way around the world."

Rac explains that his first brush with activism in the U.S. taught him a couple of important things about those war years.

"What I quickly learned was that far more apathy existed on many campuses than what we'd been led to believe. I also came to appreciate how little Americans really understand about Communism.

"What really bothers me the most about the whole period, however, is that what we were saying would happen did happen. The Vietnamese and other peoples of Southeast Asia now experience what we warned against."

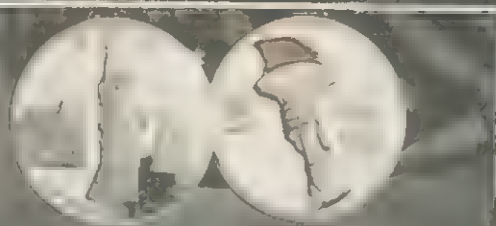
Reflecting, Rac adds:

"It's now 10 years after the war and I often wonder, and worry, about what lessons Americans really learned from Vietnam. I hope they're the right ones because we're still threatened, and, this time, right on our hemisphere's mainland."

About the Author:

David E. Wilke, a free-lance Chicago writer who works closely with *Captive Nations'* organizations, is a member of the American Security Foundation's and Accuracy in Media's speakers' bureaus.

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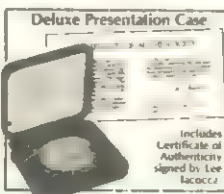
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With these programs protecting you, if something happens, there will be money available to help you and or your family over the rough times.

For information on any VFW Sponsored Insurance Plans, call the VFW's Insurance Department toll free: 1-800-821-2606 (Missouri residents, call collect: 816-561-2338). Please call between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Central Time, Monday through Friday.

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New blood is always great, but sometimes the old blood helps, too, as **Post 1670** in Laconia, N.H., learned.

A few years ago, the Post seemed to be losing ground. Three years ago, **Post 1670** had to borrow \$2,700 from the Auxiliary just to keep the Post home's doors open.

Then in 1983, Post members called on William (Bill) Giguere to lead the Post again, as he had from 1966 to 1968. When he concluded his 1968 year, Commander Giguere left the Post with more than 100% in membership, bills paid and money in the bank.

Under his second round of leadership, the Post's parking lot was paved because Commander Giguere convinced 15 members to lend the Post \$300 each. Then further renovations to the Post home were made at a cost of \$57,000.

Finally, the old school, which served as **Post 1670's** first home, was sold, and the money placed in certificates paying 10%. Interest from four of the certificates of \$10,000 each was earmarked for a nursing scholarship, Voice of Democracy, soldiers' home and Youth Activities. Earnings from the fifth, a \$15,000 certificate, were set aside for the Post's emergency fund.

An outright gift of \$1,000 was

given for a nursing scholarship and \$1,500 to Special Olympics.

Under Commander Giguere also awards of merit were presented to Officers Tom Drouin and John Bieniarz for their heroism in helping to save the lives of two children who were thrown to them from the second story of a burning building. In the same awards ceremony, Karen Ross, mother of one of the two children, was honored also for her efforts in saving the children before she leaped from the window to safety.

Christmas parties for the children in the community and mutt races for the youngsters, in which household pets are hitched to sleds furnished by the Post, have become traditional at **Post 1670**, as has manning a Salvation Army kettle during the Christmas season.

When **Post 1670** completed the 1984-85 year, it finished with 433 members, and as of March, it had reached 436 under Commander Joseph R. Landry, who was building on Giguere's record.

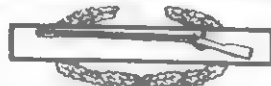
A member of **Post 5555**, Richfield, Minn., Bob Bers, recently was presented with a Bronze Star Medal for World War II exploits by Sen. Rudy Boschwitz. Bers's eligibility for the

continued on page 38



Then Commander William Giguere, **Post 1670**, Laconia, N.H., presents Jodi Bagley with the Post's first \$1,000 nursing scholarship.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	26. Philippines Presidential Unit Citation
<input type="checkbox"/>	27. Presidential Unit Citation
<input type="checkbox"/>	28. Purple Heart
<input type="checkbox"/>	29. Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation
<input type="checkbox"/>	30. Republic of Vietnam Campaign Year Bar
<input type="checkbox"/>	31. Silver Star
<input type="checkbox"/>	32. United Nations Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	33. Vietnam Presidential Unit Citation
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Devices are available 50c each
Others, please specify
Add correct amount for each device (50c each) to total order.
Quantity — Award — All Regulation Size
☐ Combat Infantryman Badge \$5.00
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Please send official chart of 90 ribbons full size and color plus other catalog sheets 1 enclose \$2.00

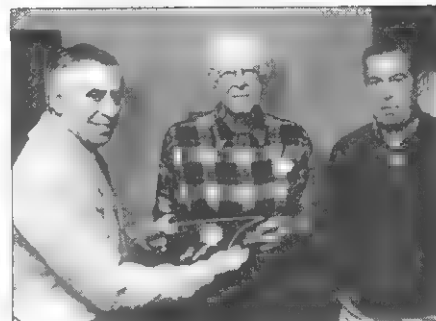
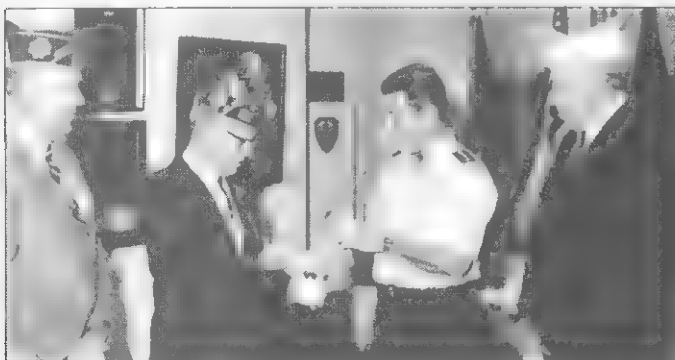
GLENWOOD AGENCY,
DEPT. VF-66
32 WILMOTH AVE., ARDSLEY, NY 10502

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Enclosed is ☐ check or ☐ money order for total of \$_____.

PRINT NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Aiding, Growing, Honoring

Whenever help is needed, the VFW is there. Further, the VFW is a growing organization. It reaches out to veterans, and they in turn respond by joining their local Posts to give the organization the extra muscle it needs to carry on its work in behalf of those who have served the nation.



David Muir, 96, receives his Life Membership in Post 9918, Clinton, Conn. The two men with him were not identified.

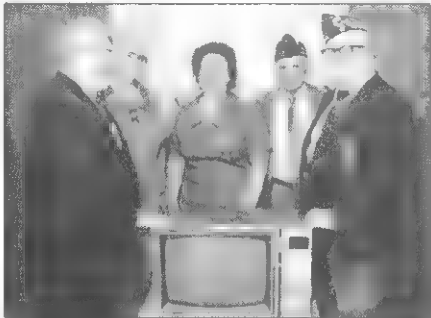
Post 4183, Belleville, Ill., gets its Buddy Poppy sale off to a good start by selling one to Gen. Duane H. Cassidy, commander in chief of the Military Airlift Command at Scott Air Force Base, Ill. Making the sale is Post Commander Paul J. O'Meara. With them are Past Commander Jack R. Bauer and Glenn R. Woods Sr.



Commander D. Joseph Lopez of Post 2639, Neptune, N.J., center, is surrounded by Post, District and Department officers and past officers to celebrate the Post's reaching 100th.



Commander Ken McLaughlin, of Post 2135, Peoria, Ariz., and Past Commander Al Natalie present Larry A. Mullins, executive vice president and administrator of the Vally View Community Hospital for his efforts in establishing the Med-Vet program at the hospital to provide care to Medicare-eligible veterans and their spouses at no cost.



John Henry, chief of the volunteer section at Lyons, N.J., VA Medical Center, receives a 19-inch television set from officers of Post and Auxiliary 9503, Bayville, N.J., and District 12



US Ambassador to the UN Vernon Walters receives his Life Membership from National Council of Administration Member Dominick Volpe. Walters was recipient of the VFW Eisenhower Award some years ago



Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab recruits WWI veteran John C. Greene, 92, as a member of Post 4666, Littleton, Colo. With them is Post Commander Philip Divilbess

A 94-year-old WWI veteran, Past Commander Charlie Ayer, of Post 1904, Fond Du Lac, Wis., rolls out the first ball at the Wisconsin Department's 51st annual bowling tournament. Post Commander Joel Walsh, left, holds Ayer's cane. Two hundred and seventeen teams were registered



Cpl. Schmitt, left, presents his grandson, Marine Cpl. Michael J. Schmitt, with a Life Membership in Post 4532, Rockledge, Fla. With them is Thomas King Ives, a retired Navy commander. Cpl. Schmitt served on the USS New Jersey off Lebanon last year



A WWI veteran, E.J. Freeman, Sr., receives his VFW membership and cap from QM David G. Garner, of Post 9245, Robbins, N.C., and Jr. Vice Commander Kenneth R. Davis. Freeman's two sons, E.J. Jr., and Everett, both WWII veterans, also joined. The Post hopes to reach 300%



Retired Maj. Gen. Hugh M. Milton II cuts the ribbon at the new meeting and trophy room of Post 10124, Las Cruces, N.M., as the Post officers also prepare to burn the mortgage on the Post home. Holding the ribbon are Sr. Vice Commander Arch Bassham, Auxiliary President Florence Gonzales, District 3 Jr. Vice Commander Roland LaFrance and Department Commander Margarito Maes

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At Last! A Small Tiller That Works!



Forget about big, clumsy, yank-you-along tillers...forever!

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The secret is *speed*. Mantis' 36 "tine teeth" spin at 240 R.P.M. (twice the speed of big tillers)! As a result, Mantis' tines go through tough soil like a chain saw goes through wood. No jerking... no yanking you along... and Mantis turns on a dime!

Put the fun back in gardening.

Most big tillers were designed to just till (but many now offer clumsy "add-on" attachments to try to justify their high cost). The Mantis was *designed from the beginning* to precisely match a small, powerful engine to a variety of *useful* attachments for your yard and garden. Tiller. Cultivator. Furrower. Edger. Lawn Aerator. Lawn De-Thatcher. Hedge Trimmer.

Most big tillers cost an arm and a leg. Despite the fact that the Mantis is a tough, durable, precision instrument... it costs a *fraction* of what you'll pay for a big tiller.

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City

State Zip

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IN THE FIELD

continued from page 35

medal came to light as the result of Gareth Hiebert's Oliver Towne column in the St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch. The columnist wrote that Bers, a field artillery forward observer with the 25th Division, had a framed commendation for bravery that should have resulted in the award of the Bronze Star. The division artillery commander wrote that on May 5, 1945, Bers had rallied a unit demoralized by a Japanese attack to counter-attack, saved trucks and supplies in a convoy and personally drove one vehicle to safety. George Griebenow, a Post member, sent the column to Boschwitz without Bers's knowledge and asked if Boschwitz would check on his eligibility. Finally, the Defense Department notified Boschwitz that Bers would be awarded the medal, and Boschwitz made the presentation at the Post's legislative dinner.

Post 10538, Tampa, Fla., dedicated a monument in the form of war eagle to all who have served the United States Armed Forces. The monument was donated to the Post by Freedom Savings Bank and the U.S. Flag that flies over the monument was given by Rep. Sam Gibbons (Fla.). It had flown over the U.S. Capitol. Present at the ceremonies were Department Sr. Vice Commander George Kelly, National Council of Administration Member Lester Davis, District 12 VFW and Auxiliary officers and several others.

When **Post 3012**, Rexburg, Idaho, received its Perpetual Charter recently — meaning it has at least 25 Life Members — it was noted that four of them are brothers, all WWII era Army veterans. They are Levear Lester, Eurchel E., Raymond R. and Jesy Norman Kington. All four served in the European Theater.

Robert A. Conner, a member of **Post 39**, St. Petersburg, Fla., was one of 22 Americans and Canadians named heroes by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. The incident for which Conner was singled out occurred when Carl R. Bassler suffered a heart attack while the two were playing tennis. Conner, who has a heart condition himself, performed cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on Bassler until he was no longer able to. Conner directed others to continue the resuscitation attempt. Bassler died, and Conner later spent nine days in a hospital for coronary treatment. The award includes a bronze medal and \$2,500.

Post 3633, Maquoketa, Iowa, presented a check for \$400 to Maquoketa Community Cupboard, and its Auxiliary gave \$100 to the group that provides food for the area's needy. Making the presentations to Homer Ulrich, of the Community Cupboard, were District 2 Commander Muriel Allan, Auxiliary President Pat Schnoor, Post Commander David Watters and Post QM Rodger Schnoor. ■



Bob Bers, a member of **Post 5555**, Richfield, Minn., receives a Bronze Star from Sen. Rudy Boschwitz. Bers, a field artillery forward observer, was cited for WWII heroism, but had never been put in for the medal until a newspaper columnist wrote a story about him.

Justice Prevails

Justice can prevail as was aptly demonstrated in the case of the widow of a military retiree, but it may not have happened had not a VFW Service Officer stepped in.

Although Delbert G. Cox was diagnosed as having diabetes shortly before retirement from the United States Army in 1969 and demonstrated significant effects afterward, the Wichita, Kans., VA Regional Office was not convinced the disease caused or contributed to the veteran's death in May, 1983, since it was not listed as a factor on the death certificate.

This finding was made in spite of a statement from the physician who treated him that diabetes played a part in Cox's death and in spite of the numerous treatment records supporting the severity of the disease in his case.

The chain of events which led ultimately to a favorable resolution of this matter was begun by Robert F. Layton, Kansas VFW Assistant Department Service Officer. He concluded that the VA decision represented an injustice and contacted Mrs. Leslie L. Cox, the veteran's widow. He encouraged her to appeal the decision. And she did.

Believing that clarifying information from the treating physician was imperative to the case, Layton assisted Mrs. Cox in establishing contact with the doctor. It was learned he had been transferred to Germany as a member of the U.S. Army Medical Corps. A prompt reply containing the desired information was received and submitted to the VA. Again, however, the VA was not persuaded.

At this juncture, Layton could have permitted the case to proceed routinely to the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, D.C., but he did not. Instead, he chose to contact the treating physician once more to explain the dilemma. The doctor in turn contacted another physician

who had also attended the veteran and the two together provided a definitive statement concerning the relationship between the diabetes and the cause of death.

The statement, along with Layton's arguments, was submitted to the VA. The result: service connection for cause of death was established.

The consequence of Layton's actions cannot be measured simply in

terms of accrued benefits of \$11,855 awarded to his widow along with Dependency and Indemnity Compensation amounting to more than \$7,000, nor can it be measured by the DIC benefits awarded to the veteran's incapacitated child.

No, it is more than this. It is the idea that the VFW cared and was there in a time of need. Congratulations to Robert F. Layton for a job well done. ■



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C	Tan		
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SIZES

Small (28-30)	Medium (32-34)	Large (36-38)	XL (40-42)	2XL (44-46)	3XL (48-50)	4XL (52-54)

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March Commanders-of-the-Month

DEPARTMENT



DIV I
Nick Vannicelli (6)
Ohio



DIV II
Patrick T. Bohmer (6)
Minnesota



DIV III
Robert Gascoigne (4)
Wisconsin



DIV IV
Michael J. Mason, Sr.
Maryland



DIV V
James E. Higgins (7)
Virginia



DIV VI
George A. Ganey
Alabama



DIV VII
Gil LaMontagne
Arizona



DIV VIII
Harold Carnahan (5)
North Dakota



DIV IX
Judd Clemens (7)
Alaska



DIV X
Robert F. Ramirez (5)
Panama Canal

DISTRICT

DIV I
District 11
Ohio
Robert W. Graff (3)

DIV II
District 14
Maryland
David R. Clark (4)

DIV III
District 1
Indiana
Thomas Cogley (6)

DIV IV
District 3
California
Ernest R. Blodgett (2)

DIV V
District 14
Kentucky
Bill Smith

DIV VI
District 14
Missouri
Harlan Embrey (3)

DIV VII
District 1
Arkansas
Charles Rogers (4)

DIV VIII
District 8
Alabama
Joseph Barnes

POST

DIV I
Post 1114
Indiana
Ivan Dimmett (7)

DIV II
Post 4057
Mississippi
John Q. O'Quinn (2)

DIV III
Post 10209
Florida
Richard Davis (4)

DIV IV
Post 639
Massachusetts
Charles J. Lawson (4)

DIV V
Post 9083
Maryland
Nicholas T. Bassetti (7)

DIV VI
Post 9785
Alaska
Miles Pierce (3)

DIV VII
Post 8577
Texas
Thurmond Hummer

DIV VIII
Post 9927
Ohio
David L. Turner (4)

DIV IX
Post 8510
Minnesota
Marty L. Ban (5)

DIV X
Post 1523
Connecticut
Demitri Stilu (4)

DIV XI
Post 392
Virginia
Gary H. Click

DIV XII
Post 5483
North Carolina
James C. Rich (4)

DIV XIII
Post 5382
Pennsylvania
John F. Rhodes

DIV XIV
Post 8564
Texas
William B. Warren (6)

DIV XV
Post 3656
Oklahoma
Mark Palma (4)

DIV XVI
Post 8255
Florida
Lester Gilstrap (2)

DIV XVII
Post 819
California
Leonard Hipple

DIV XVIII
Post 7778
Georgia
Louis C. Graziano, Sr. (7)

DIV XIX
Post 879
Pennsylvania
Larry McNamara

DIV XX
Post 5865
Pennsylvania
Acie T. Marksberry (7)

(Figure in parentheses indicates number of times Commander has won this honor)

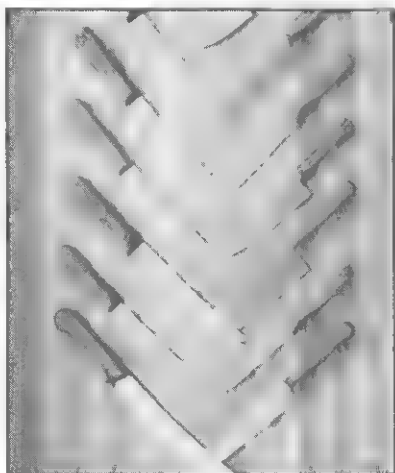
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Comparable Value **\$69.95**

Liquidation Price **\$29**

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a day, 7 days a week



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757 at \$29 each plus \$4 each for shipping, handling
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M E M B E R S H I P

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National Headquarters through March 31, 1986

NATIONAL AVERAGE — 97.32*

1	PANAMA CANAL	104.33	28	Rhode Island	97.47
2	Alaska	103.40	29	Illinois	97.01
3	Delaware	101.45	30	Montana	97.00
4	Ohio	100.03	31	New Hampshire	96.84
5	Virginia	99.4	32	New Jersey	96.81
6	Wisconsin	99.06	33	Louisiana	96.5799
7	Maryland	98.95	34	New York	96.5798
8	North Dakota	98.881	35	Washington	96.35
9	Alabama	98.8.8	36	Texas	96.23
10	Kansas	98.86	37	Wyoming	96.10
11	Vermont	98.83	38	Idaho	96.07
12	Arizona	98.2	39	Maine	95.78
13	South Dakota	98.64	40	New Mexico	95.60
14	Florida	98.61	41	Pacific Areas	95.51
15	Minnesota	98.58	42	West Virginia	95.2033
16	Oregon	98.51	43	Nevada	95.2030
17	Indiana	98.50	44	Colorado	94.89
18	Iowa	98.35	45	Massachusetts	94.76
19	Kentucky	98.30	46	District of Columbia	94.57
20	Nebraska	98.25	47	Hawaii	94.33
21	Michigan	98.21	48	Mississippi	94.27
22	North Carolina	98.18	49	Tennessee	94.01
23	Connecticut	98.03	50	Oklahoma	93.54
24	Missouri	97.84	51	Utah	93.33
25	Arkansas	97.5	52	South Carolina	92.93
26	California	97.56	53	Georgia	92.58
27	Pennsylvania	97.48	54	Germany	68.94

National Aides-de-Camp

The following members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, during the month of February, 1986. To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 50 new and/or reinstated members.

Robert W. Davis, Post 2242, Paragould, Ark.; Thomas W. Clark, Jr., Post 5225, West Memphis, Ark.; John J. Nick, Post 3911, Key West, Fla.; Richard J. Thurston, Post 10477, Lakeland, Fla.; Thomas W. Berry, Post 1432, Salina, Kans.; Albert C. Walsh, Post 6694

Dundalk, Md.; Robert G. Roux, Post 3777, Festus, Mo.; Robert J. H. Kugler, Post 6590, Wrightstown, N.J.; Kenneth R. Davis, Post 9245, Robbins, N.C.; Kenneth H. Hager, Post 9053, Tupper Plain, Ohio.; Edgar L. Horswill, Post 1325, Portland, Ore.; L.L. Schoenerberger, Post 5382, Sciota, Pa.; and Shepherd M. Crain II, Post 1503, Dale City, Va.; Othel P. Frost, Post 7175, Millington, Tenn.; Elmer Kreeger, Post 5789, Lee's Summit, Mo.; George R. Zellman, Post 3941, Livonia, Mich.; Harry Valeriani, Post 832, South Portland, Maine; and Ed Shean, Post 5984, Spearsville, Kans.

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A Chief's Name Lives On



"Men fight, not ships." Those memorable words of Adm. Robert E. Coontz, uttered when he was the first Chief of Naval Operations, summed up the concern for those serving under him that was demonstrated again by his election as VFW Commander-in-Chief at the 33rd National Convention.

Just as the Veterans of Foreign Wars today is fighting elements inside the federal government — and outside it, too — that would cut or eliminate veterans' benefits, it waged an unceasing battle against similar forces in the 1930s when veterans' rights and entitlements were being attacked under the guise of economy.

One of the leading groups in the anti-veteran campaign was the National Economy League, with such notables as Gen. John J. Pershing, Adm. Richard E. Byrd, Adm. William S. Sims and Gen. James G. Harbord gracing the league's council.

So it was as an act of dedication to the men he once commanded that Adm. Coontz became a successful candidate for election at the Convention, called Encampments then, in Sacramento. Among resolutions adopted was one condemning the league and branding the use of troops against the Bonus Marchers in Washington as "morally indefensible," naming Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Army Chief of Staff, who commanded the troops that attacked the veterans, and President Herbert Hoover, who ordered the action.



A bow-on view of the guided missile destroyer USS Coontz.

Adm. Coontz was the second Navy veteran to be elected Commander-in-Chief and the last Spanish-American War veteran to serve in that VFW office.

Although many of the men who served in World War I have passed on — with the recent deaths of Past Commanders-in-Chief Joseph Menendez and James E. Van Zandt, only Robert Merrill survives as a Past Commander-in-Chief from that era — the name of Adm. Coontz lives on in the USS Coontz, the first guided missile frigate to be built on the West

Coast. The ship was christened by Mrs. Robert J. Coontz, wife of the admiral's grandson, on Dec. 6, 1958.

Commissioned in July 1960, the Coontz joined the 1st Fleet and the following year began the first of her seven deployments to the 7th Fleet in the Far East. Several of her tours were in Vietnamese waters during the Vietnam War. Then she was decommissioned in 1971 to undergo extensive anti-air warfare modernization. A year later, the Coontz became a unit of Destroyer Squadron 10 as part of the Atlantic Fleet Cruiser-Destroyer Force.

Actually the contemporary Coontz is the second to bear the name of Past Commander-in-Chief Coontz. The first was a transport commissioned in 1944, but transferred to the Military Sea Transportation Service in 1950 as the USNS Alexander Patch.

An active member of Ship 427 in Washington, Adm. Coontz was born in Hannibal, Mo., in 1864, not far from the Louisiana, Mo., birthplace of Past Commander-in-Chief Leslie M. Fry. Post 2446 in Hannibal is named for him. From Hannibal, he went to Annapolis and it was in Hannibal where he was buried according to the VFW Ritual after his death in Bremerton, Wash., in 1935.

Adm. Coontz's naval career included governorship of Guam, executive officer of the USS Nebraska on the globe-girdling trip of the fleet in 1908; command of the USS Georgia, the Puget Sound Navy Yard, Atlantic Fleet's Division 7, and the Pacific Fleet's Division 6 prior to his appointment as Chief of Naval Operations. After four years as the Navy's ranking officer, he became Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Fleet, which made a historic cruise to New Zealand and Australia in 1925.

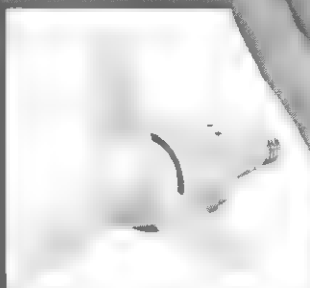
He was succeeded as Commander-in-Chief by another Navy veteran, James E. Van Zandt, and the fight on behalf of veterans went on and still does. ■

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**SUPER COOLING POWER...
INSTALLS INSTANTLY!**

Screws into
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socket... If you can
change a light bulb, you
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**Circulates Warm Or Cool Air — KEEPS YOU
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- **SAVES \$\$ ON SUMMER ELECTRIC BILLS**—Runs at 800 RPM, uses only 24 watts
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- **QUIET, STURDY, AND SMOOTH-RUNNING**—Easy to remove for off-season storage
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JUST SCREW INTO ANY STANDARD LIGHT SOCKET in place of the bulb. It's ideal for ceiling, track lighting, and to prevent stale air buildup in basement or attic. Imagine how great it'll be to have one in the kitchen, workshop, or your vacation hideaway. Made of durable ABS extra-quality plastic. Uses just 24 watts... less than half the usage of a 60W light bulb!

TRY IT FOR 30 DAYS ON FULL MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE You'll wonder how you lived without it... or return for full refund of purchase price (except ship. & hdg.). Our policy is to process all orders promptly. We charge your credit card only when order is shipped. Delays notified promptly. Shipment guaranteed within 60 days.

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GENERAL ORDERS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States

1985-86 Series General Orders No. 8

- The following appointment is hereby announced: NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF Clarence E. Price Post 7099, W. Covington, Ky.
- Installing officers will see that the provisions of Section 217 of the National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure are properly carried out and that all officers are members in good standing and qualified to hold office prior to installing Post Officers for the current year. Proof of eligibility must be on file with the Adjutant prior to installation. The installing officer shall ascertain that a Post Election Report form has been mailed to Department and National Headquarters prior to the installation. If a Post Election Report has not been forwarded to Department and National Headquarters, the installing officer shall complete and forward such report at the time he installs the Post Officers. Attention is directed to see that the proper amount of dues the Post charges is reported to Department and National Headquarters.
- TERM OF OFFICE** — COUNTY COUNCIL AND DISTRICT OFFICERS County Council and District Officers shall be given the officers obligation before the adjournment of the meeting at which they are elected but shall not assume the duties of their office until the Department Commander is installed following the Department Convention. Installing officers shall ensure that a County Council District Election Report is prepared and forwarded to Department and National Headquarters at the time of installation. Proof of eligibility must be on file with the Adjutant prior to installation.
- Section 223 of the National Constitution and By Laws and Manual of Procedure provides that each Post shall make the necessary arrangements for proper observance of Loyalty Day and Memorial Day. Officers should see that suitable grave markers, wreaths and United States Flags are placed on the graves of deceased veterans.
- Proposed amendments to the National By Laws must be in proper form and must be approved by the Department Convention. Such proposals should be specific and definite as to the section, line or paragraph that is to be amended with exact wording as to additions and deletions. Approved By-Law amendments adopted by the Department Convention must be received by the Adjutant General not later than July 5, 1986, in order to meet the requirements of Section 1301, National By Laws. Departments holding conventions in July will forward any proposed amendments to the Adjutant General not later than the day following the conclusion of their convention.
- Resolutions for consideration of the 87th National Convention must first be approved by the Department Convention. Immediately following the close of the Department Convention, the Department Adjutant will transmit a copy of each approved resolution to the Adjutant General. Resolutions should bear title and number for identification purposes.
- Post Commanders are reminded that each Post must register one or more delegates to the VFW National Convention (Section 222 National Constitution and By Laws). Advance registration for the National Convention is six dollars (\$6.00) per delegate and should be mailed to Veterans of Foreign Wars 87th National Convention, c/o Wesley Temple Office Building, Suite 1106, 123 E. Grant St., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403. Registration at the Convention will be eight dollars (\$8.00).
- Request for hotel room reservations for the VFW 87th National Convention should be made through respective Department Headquarters.
- The Board of Trustees of the Life Membership Fund are pleased to announce that the Life Member dues payments for all Life Member plans is being continued for 1987 payments as follows: Post dues \$4.00 Department dues \$4.00 and National dues \$4.00.
- Certificates of Charter evidencing consolidation have been issued to the following Posts: Post 147, and Post 873 have consolidated as Post 147, Livonia, Mich. Post 819 and Post 2509 have consolidated as Post 819, San Leandro, Calif. Post 2229 and Post 9964 have consolidated as Post 2229, Shreveport, La. Post 2605 and Post 6024 have consolidated as Post 2605, Carbondale, Ill.

Post 6128 and Post 1129 have consolidated as Post 6128, Brownsburg, Ind.

11. Announcement is made of the revival of the following defunct Post: Post 7158, Cameron, Mo.

12. Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post 7755 Bourg, La.; Post 7766, San Diego, Calif.; Post 7779, Hyde Park, Vt.; Post 7780, Mathias, West Va.; Post 7861, Littleton, Colo.; Post 7966, East Point, Fla.; Post 7978, Rockford, Ohio; Post 7979, Ewart, Mich.; Post 7982, Salineville, Ohio; Post 7985, Continental, Ohio; Post 8037, Alpharetta, Ga.; Post 8041, New Holland, Ohio; Post 8295, Kokato, Minn.; Post 8299, Floodwood, Minn.; Post 9372, Canton, Conn.; and Post 9783, Portland, Texas.

By Commander of
JOHN S. STAUM
Commander in Chief

OFFICIAL
Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.
Adjutant General

CLAIMS

Readers are urged to help these veterans seeking claim substantiation statements. Submit claims assistance requests to VFW Magazine, Claims, 406 W. 34 St., Kansas City MO 64111

AIR FORCE

4th Combat Cargo Gp. (APO 218 NY, 1945)—Seeking 350th Airdrome Sqdn. personnel who were with me during fire at Chittagong, India—Filberto Garcia, 6500 Cochiti SE, Sp. 58, Albuquerque NM 87108

ARMY

25th Div., 14th Rgt., Co. H (Korea, 1951-52)—Seeking Charles Jordan, Lt. Shaw or Maj. Miller—Joel Walker, 101 Whispering Pines, Moore SC 29369.

Headquarters 17th Base Post Office, Seine Section, Theater Service Forces (France, WWII)—Seeking anyone who remembers my fall down an elevator shaft in the converted dept. store barracks, esp. Leo Freeman—Clyde Welch, 4395 Holland Loop Rd., Cave Junction OR 97523

71st FA Bde. (Fort Ethan Allen VT)—Seeking anyone who remembers my fall and eye injury—W.J. Regan, Rt. 7, Charlotte VT 05445.

HHD 25th AVNBN USARV (Vietnam, 1967-69)—Seeking anyone who remembers when my knee was injured—Fred Valdez, General Delivery, San Rafael NM 87051

2nd Div., 38th Rgt., Co. I (Korea, 1952)—Seeking anyone who remembers the night I stepped on a mine—Henry Taylor, POB 459, Jarrell TX 76537

545th Ord. (Japan & Korea, 1948-51)—Dallas Dotson, 714 Olive St., Parkersburg WV 26101.

Army Specialty School (Japan, 1951)—Clyde Anderson, 404 W. Michigan, Marquette MI 49855

American Div., 186th LI Bn., 8th Support Bn., Co. B (Vietnam, 1967-68)—Seeking E.F. Fritts or anyone from the armament section—E.L. McAuliffe, 1419 Sherman St., Wausau WI 54401

NAVY

USS Hancock CVA-19, 3rd Div.—Seeking anyone who remembers when I was isolated for TB—Carl Tanner, 162 W. 100 South, Spanish Fork UT 84660

USS Ganyemed AK-104 (1943-48)—D.L. Burch, 244 Des Moines, Salina KS 67401.

USS Wasp CVA-18 (1951-53)—Seeking Gerald Lemmons, T.W. Ragland & others who remember my back injury resulting from lifting bottled gas—Clyde Tweed, 24 Swannview Dr., Asheville NC 28805

USS Valley Forge CV-45, USS Bataan CVL-29 & USS Boxer CV-21 (1951-54)—Cameron Agnew, Box 91, Mahanomen MN 56557

USS ABSO-2, Section 4, USS LSTs 942 & 721 & USS Mango (1944-45)—R.M. West, 4316 Lincoln Ave., Lawton OK 73505.

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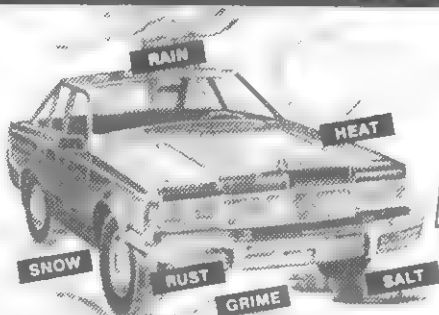
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 SIGNATURE

Reunion announcements are published as a cost-free service to VFW members in good standing. To ensure timely inclusion of your announcement, all information pertaining to the event must arrive in VFW Magazine offices six months prior to the reunion. Reunion announcement forms must be used and can be obtained by writing VFW Magazine, Reunions, 36th and Broadway, Kansas City MO 64111. Publication is limited to one time per calendar year.

AIR FORCE

□ August
44th BG/BW/SMW—Colorado Springs—William Topping, 1428 Vadera Ct., Fenton MO 63026.
44th Rep. Sqdn.—Frankenmuth MI—Cliff Baugh, 9247 Bray Rd., Millington MI 48746.
54th Trg. Carrier Wing, 820th Med. Evac. Sqdn.—San Diego—Richard Brown, 636 De De Drive, Greehold NJ 07728.
57th Bomb. Wing—Sacramento CA—Bob Evans, 1950 Cunningham Dr., Speedway IN 46224.
446th Bomb. Gp. (England, 1943-45)—Dayton OH—W.F. Davenport, 13762 Loretta Dr., Santa Ana CA 92705.
1503rd MATS (Japan & Korea, 1950-54)—Lloyd Lucas, 3128 Stoney Dr., Lafayette IN 47905.
1880th Air Eng. Bn.—Salt Lake City—Ed Brown, 6005 Kenwood Dr., Nashville TN 37215.
3912th Air Base Sqdn. (Huntingtonshire, England, 1950-53)—Reno—Bill Parkhurst, POB 2881, Tulsa OK 74101.
P-51 Mustang Pilots Assn.—Hampton Roads VA—Don Bennett, POB 552, Newport NH 03773.

September

1st Aft. Rep. Unit (Floating)—Niagara Falls—William McElhinny, 209 N. Linden Dr., Buffalo NY 14221

1st Observation Sqdn.—Ft. Riley KS—Nester Cole, 2732 Warwick Dr., Bloomfield Hills MI 48013.

1st Strategic Air Depot Assn. (England, 1942-48)—San Francisco—Warren Stanley, 3207 Myles Ct. #3, San Jose CA 95117.

3rd Strategic Support Sqdn.—Reno—Chuck Wynn, 119 Foothill Dr., Vacaville CA 95688.

4th Combat Cargo Sqdn.—Little Rock AR—John Etier 1626 N. Main St., Rockford IL 61103.

5th AF, 90th Bomb. Gp. (H)—Scottsdale AZ—Tom Keyworth, 38 Crestlyn Dr. E., York PA 17402.

5th Air Base Gp.—Charles West, 102 Brown Rd., Montrose CO 81401.

8th AF, 34th Bomb. Gp.—Colorado Springs—Ray Summa, 2910 Bittersweet Ln., Anderson IN 46011.

8th AF, 305th Bomb. Gp. (England, WWII)—Anaheim CA—Abe Millar, POB 757, Sanger TX 76266.

8th AF, 339th Fighter Gp.—England—Chet Malarz, 2405 Kings Point Dr., Atlanta GA 30338.

8th AF, 352nd Fighter Gp.—Dayton OH—Richard DeBruin, 234 N. 74th St., Milwaukee WI 53213

8th Fighter Control Sqdn. (WWII)—West Yellowstone MT—Donald Hawkins, 525 N. 16th Ave., Riverton WY 82501

9th AF, 323rd Bomb. Gp., 455th Bomb. Sqdn. (ETU, WWII)—Dayton OH—Art Duncan, 1003 Greenwood Way, Cocoa FL 32922.

9th AF, 405th Bomb. Gp. (L) (ETU, WWII)—Colorado Springs—Eugene Nelson, Rt. 1 Box 129-A, Alpine AL 35014

13th Bomb. Sqdn. (Korea)—San Francisco—Griff DeNeen, POB 735, Severnville TN 37862.

15th AF, 450th Bomb Gp. (H)—Dayton OH—Arnold Daniels, 228 Holley Rd., Sweet Home OR 97386

15th AF, 485th Bomb. Gp.—Nashville—E.L. Bundy, 5773 Middlefield Dr., Columbus OH 43220

17th Bomb. Gp. (WWII)—Albuquerque—W.D. Baird, 6776 E. Northwest Hwy., Dallas TX 75231

18th Fighter Gp., 70th Fighter Sqdn.—Colorado Springs—Elbert Major, Rt. 4 Box 573, Lindale TX 75771.

19th Bomb. Assn.—Denver—James O'Day, 6132 Cherrywood Circle, Littleton CO 80121.

20th AF, 870th Chem. Co. Air Ops. (Saipan, WWII)—Edward Kleindienst, 41 Judge Ln., Bethlehem CT 06751.

28th Photo Recon. Sqdn.—Crystal River FL—Ray Ott 24 High Acres Rd., Ansonia CT 06401.

34th Air Depot Gp. (WWII)—Ed Maynard, 6021 Dahlia Dr., Orlando FL 32807

52nd Air Svc. Gp. (CBI, 1943-46)—Tom VanDusen 18337 Sunderland, Detroit MI 48219.

58th Bomb. Wing Assn.—Herbert Bush, 4367 Redwood St., Atlanta GA 30360.

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63rd Bomb. Sqdn. & 868th Bomb Sqdn.—San Diego—Vince Splane, 2676 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg FL 32068
66th Airdrome Sqdn. (WWII)—James Houchins, 105 Wilkes Ave., Beckley WV 25801.
81st Trp. Carrier Sqdn. (WWII)—Tucson—T.W. Bonecutter, 620 Randolph St., Wilmington OH 45177
84th Airdrome Sqdn. (WWII)—Louis West, 137 Moffat Ave., Washington PA 15301
95th Bomb. Gp. (M)—Valley Forge—Ellis Scripture, 1277 Wiltshire Rd., York PA 17403
138th Signal Intelligence Co. & 1st Radio Sqdn. Mobile (1941-45)—Frank Koopman, 108 Ramoneda, Bay St Louis MS 39520
306th Air Materiel Sqdn. (WWII)—St. Louis—David Smith, 7 Toll Terr., Fairfield NJ 07006
309th Trp. Carrier Gp. & 18th T.C. Sqdn. (1950-60)—Columbus OH—Charles Kern, 1056 Brainerd Rd., Reynoldsburg OH 43068
315th Bomb. Wing (Guam, WWII)—Los Angeles—Warren Thompson, 1318 N. 95th St., Omaha NE 68114
315th Trp. Carrier Gp. (WWII)—Seattle—William Conine, 16850 NE 6th St., Bellevue WA 98008
319th Bomb. Gp. Assn.—Columbia SC—Neal Baker, 1831 S. Park Ln., Denison TX 75020

ALL BRANCHED

August
Survivors of Bataan & Corregidor—Fontana Dam ND—Wayne Carringer, POB 46, Robbinsville NC 28771

September
8th Photo Recon. Sqdn. (Pacific)—Orlando FL—Andy Kappel, 6406 Walnut, Kansas City MO 64113

ARMY

June
95th Div.—Leon Reece, 716 Cliffwood Dr., Newport TN 37821
448th AAA AW Bn.—Columbus OH—James Egem, 40936 N. Prairie Ave., Antioch IL 60002
744th ROB (WWII)—Duluth MN—Leonard Gulbranson, 624 Second St., Proctor MN 55810
757th Tank Bn.—Paula Eden, 7401 W. Mansfield Ave., Suite 108, Lakewood CO 80235
1896 Engr. Avn. Bn. (WWII)—Victor Lechowicz, 719 Taylor Ave., Avalon PA 15202
River Patrol Force (Task Force 118)—San Diego John Williams, POB 5523, Virginia Beach VA 23455

July
2nd Bn., 77th & 631st FA Bns.—Jess Smith, RR 1 Box 155, Blanco TX 78606
78th Inf. Div. Assn.—Jackson MS—Lloyd Chauvin, 2041 Cypress Pt. Dr., Corona CA 91720
79th Div. Recon. Trps. & 314th Rgt.—Carlos Ogden, 6013 Calle de Felice, San Jose CA 95124
79th Div., 313th Inf. (WWII)—New Orleans—Bruno Cerasi, 542 6th St., Campbell OH 44405
91st Evac. Hosp. (WWII) & 91st Hosp. (Vietnam)—Mammoth Caves Park KY—Walter Reese, 4970 Osborn Rd., Garfield Hts. OH 44128
164th Inf., Co. F (WWII & Korean War)—John Paulson, 80 2nd Ave. N., Carrington ND 58421
763rd Tank Bn.—Don Page, 523 N. West St., Xenia OH 45385
3476th Ord. MAM Co.—Tony Perricone, 264 Shaw Ave., Meadville PA 16335

August
2nd Div., 9th Inf., Co. D, Mortar Platoon—Amana IA Ira Russell, 3007 McNeil, Wichita Falls TX 76309
10th Inf. Assn.—Huntington WV—James Arrington, 936 Guyandott Ave., Mullens WV 25882
16th Special Svc. Co.—Frank Malusek, 1650 E. Alward Rd., DeWitt MI 48820
17th Abn. Div. (WWII)—San Jose CA—Edward Siergiej, 62 Forty Acre Mountain Rd., Danbury CT 06811
28th Inf. Rgt., Co. G (WWII)—Phil Emerson, POB 306, Hernandez MS 38632
37th Div., 129th Rgt., Cos. A & B, and 1st Bn. HQ Co.—Russell Smith, Rt. 1, Monroe City MO 63456
44th Engr. Combat Bn. Assn.—Frankenmuth MI—Charles Beson, 5556 Christy Way Ct., Bay City MI 48706
47th Div., 125th FA Bn., Btry. A—Delores Smith, 310 Arm. Blvd. S., St. James MN 56081

continued on page 48

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Now thanks to Coach "Cotton" Barlow, there's an answer!

Custom form fitting pad design prevents slipping and affords maximum mobility and comfort. Won't cut off circulation

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Comes in 5 different sizes to ensure proper fit for either knee.

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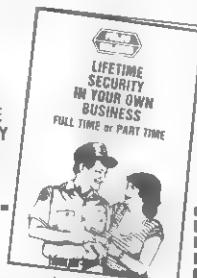
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REUNIONS

continued from page 47

70th Div., 274th Rgt., Co. K—Pittsburgh—Tom Axelrod, 4151 N. Hazel, White Bear Lake MN 55110
70th Div., 275th Rgt., Co. C (ETO, 1944-45)—Portland OR—Tom Higley, Villa Venice Apt. 915-D, 915 N. Desert, Tucson AZ 85711.

95th Inf. Div. Assn.—Green Bay WI—Lester Wolf, POB 1274, Chicago IL 60690

101st MP Bn.—Niagara Falls—Thomas Farley, 26 Kingston Ave. Hicksville NY 11801

153rd Engr. CB—Somerset PA—John Mantini, RD 3 Box 214, Hollsopple PA 15935

172nd Inf. Rgt., Co. F—Guntersville AL—Leonard Hall, 10 Circle G, Orange TX 77630

215th CAA, Btry. E (National Guard)—Helmer Haakenson, 1018 N. Elmwood, Luverne MN 56156

295th JASCO John Tarquino, 34 Wintergreen Pl., Lacawanna NY 14218

436th AAA Bn. (WWII) Carlton Nixon, Rt. 2 Box 120-8, Athens GA 30607

455th AAA AW Bn., Btrys. A, B, C, D & HQ (WWII)—Buford Devers, 405 Glengarry Dr., Nashville TN 37217.

524th MP Bn.—West Bend WI—Carl Heimerl, 3322 Hwy. P, Jackson WI 53037

534th AAA Bn. Bama Hensen, Rt. 3 Box 128, Grant AL 35747

551 QM Co.—Reno—Lowell DeLong, 480 Harvard, Gladstone OR 97027

702nd Tank Bn.—Tony Cannarozzi, 1516 Poplar St., Erie PA 16502

American Div., 52nd Rgt., 1st Bn., Co. C (Vietnam, 1969-70)—Porono Mtns PA—Steve Mundrake, RD 1, Dalton PA 18414

River Patrol Force—Norfolk VA—John Williams, POB 7523, Virginia Beach VA 23455

September

8th Div., 28th Rgt., Med Det.—Niagara Falls—Walter Boznich, 300 Howard Ave., Watkins Glen NY 14891

13th Armcd. Div., 124th Armcd. Engrs., Co. B—Lido Beach FL—Robert Kohnke, 413 Fenton Ave., Romeoville IL 60441

26th FA Bn., Btry. E (Ft. Sill OK, 1942-45) Carl Dietrich, 7500 Claymont Ct., Bellville IL 62223

90th Div.—Kansas City KS—Thomas Medlin, 1102 S. Maxey St. Sherman TX 75090

101st Signal Bn., NYARNG & AUSNG—Rye NY Joseph Nader, 127 N. Broadway, Yonkers NY 10701

134th Inf. Rgt.—Topeka KS—James Graff, 134-C, Middletown IL 62666

147th Inf. Rgt., Co. K—Harry Ark, 114 Fairview Ave., Springfield OH 45504

147th Inf. Rgt., Co. M—Springfield OH—Fred Bejcek, 5910 Sunset Dr., Bedford Hts. OH 44146

292nd JASCO—Bill Keating, 8507 Old Shep Rd., Louisville KY 40219

296th Engr. (Combat) Bn.—Boston Gene Massone, 11 Bellvale St., Malden MA 02148

298th Gen. Hosp. Unit—Indianapolis—Cecil Carmichael, 424 W. 10th St., Anderson IN 46016

301st Signal Bn. (WWII)—New Kensington PA—Joseph DiCaro, 326 Fourth Ave., Tarentum PA 15084

303rd Inf. Rgt., Co. F—Nashville—Robert Nabers, POB 1040, Waycross GA 31501

304th/610th Ord. Bn.—Dayton OH—Hank Lusch, 5023 N. Main St., Long Lake MI 48743

344th Ord. Depot Co.—Irving TX—Albert Thorne, Box 147, Miami TX 79059

356th AAA SLT Bn. Denver—Elmer Peters, Box 144, Glidden IA 51443

358th QM, 152nd Port Bn., Co. B—Floyd Day 109 Stanfield Ave, Cheyenne WY 82007

359th Engrs., Co. F—Columbus OH—Glenn Atkinson, RD 1, Perrysville OH 44864

389th FA Bn., all Btrys. (WWII) Springdale OH—Joe Newbauer, RR 3 Box 3668F, Grayling MI 49738

390th Signal Co. Avn. (SP) (WWII)—Virginia Beach—Joseph LaBella, 11 Fifth Ave. Box 202 Sea Girt NJ 08750

421 MPEG (WWII)—Los Angeles David Rodriguez, 7418 Sunnybrae Ave., Canoga Park CA 91306

445th Ord (HAM) Co.—Leroy Law, Rt. 3 Box 175, Lexington OK 73051

446th AAA AW Bn.—Roosevelt Lake MS—W.T. Tramel, POB 85, Raleigh MS 39153

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 487th AAA, Btry. D—Bonham TX—Albert Vassallo, 33 Dolphin, Hitchcock TX 77563.
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 604th AAA & 842nd FA—Earl Kruger, 604 E. Walnut St., Sleepy Eye MN 56085.
 604th Ord. Sgt. Co. B—Kansas City MO—Victor Liddle, 3605 Blue Ridge Blvd., Independence MO 64052.
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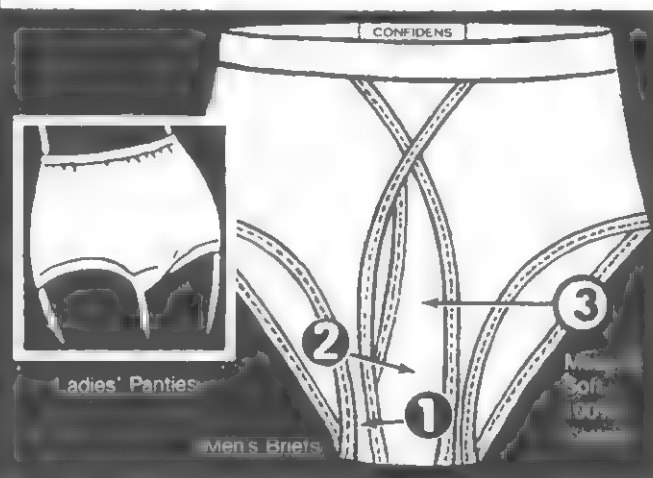
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126th NCB—Tacoma WA—Lenno Johnston, Star Rt Box 27, Pineville MO 64856

Aviation Boatswains Mates Assn.—Pensacola FL—Bill Sundermeier, 2565 Granada Camino, Pensacola FL 32507

Base Hospital #18—Cranford NJ—E.S. Ratner, 839 Lydia Ln., Westburg NY 11590

Naval Minewarfare Assn.—Reno NV—H.H. Stettler, 3604 Greenleaf Dr., Santa Rosa CA 95401

Submarine Veterans of WWII—Baltimore—G.R. Anderson, 5450 Old Ct. Rd. Apt. 201, Randallstown MD 21133

USS Albert W. Grant DD-649—Buffalo NY—Nick DeMarco, 303 Vine St., Charleston WV 25302

USS Cabriha SS-288—Baltimore—William Reitz, 1225 6th Place, Port Hueneme CA 93041

USS Chaffee DE-230—Philadelphia—Robert Christ, 4226 Glenfall Ave., Charlotte NC 28210

USS Cushings DD-376, 797 & 985—Providence RI—George Daves, Box 242, Schoharie NY 12157

USS Dace SS-247, USS Darter SS-227 & USS Menhaden SS-377—Baltimore—Karl Fleischer, 1000 Tucson St., Aurora CO 80011

USS Decker DE-47—Philadelphia—Milt Stein, 2458 NE 18th Ct., Jensen Beach FL 34457

USS Denver CI-58—Clyde Block, 10351 Stangel Rd., Sidney OH 45365

USS Dortch DD-670—Providence RI—Harold Wolf, 803 Douglas St., Jackson MI 49203

USS Enterprise CV-6—Plymouth IN—Ed Doss, POB 791, Westport WA 98595

USS Enterprise CVAN-65—Norfolk VA—Eddie Cook, 914 Pamlico Dr., Cary NC 27511

USS Epperson DD-719—Providence RI—Thomas Pelton, 325 E. Sunset Ct., Madison WI 53705

USS Farquhar DE-139—Philadelphia—Thomas Miller, 140 Woodlyn Ave., Willow Grove PA 19090

USS Gainard DD-706—Cecil Kendrick, 720 Hemlock Crescent, Virginia Beach VA 23464

USS Greenling SS-213—Baltimore—George Hinds, 172 W. Middlesex Dr., Carlisle PA 17013

USS Guavina SS-362—Baltimore—Robert Straub, Westerlea Arms B-11 A-4, Hightstown NJ 08520

USS Halibut SS-232—Baltimore—John Perkins, 7103 Cindy Ln., Annandale VA 22003

USS Healy DD-672 (1952-54) Robert McCulloch, 3136 N. US 35, La Porte IN 46350

USS Henrico APA-45—Akron OH—Don Soper, POB 627, Platte City MO 64079

USS Hoe—Baltimore MD—Leonard English, 616 River St., Peckville PA 18452

USS Holder DDE-819—Cleveland OH—Jim Churchfield, 1786 Ridgwick Dr., Wickliffe OH 44092

USS Hull DD-350—Reno—J.R. Schultz, 507 Melrose Ave., Santa Cruz CA 95062

USS Intrepid CV-11—Jim Blobner, Intrepid Square, W 46th St. & 12th Ave., New York NY 10036

USS Johnnie Hutchins DE-360—Philadelphia—John Keally, 40 Julian Dr., Pittsburgh PA 15235

USS Kidd Assn.—Windsor Locks CT—Budd Peck, POB 224, Abington CT 06230

USS LST 221—Chicago—Norbert Cora, 2001 Hamilton St., Lockport IL 60441

USS LST 614 (WWII)—Byesville OH—William Neff, 10134 Ball Ln., Byesville OH 43723

USS LST 1091 (WWII)—Pittsburgh—Tom Carrico, 4204 Garvey Ct., Louisville KY 40216

USS Medusa AR-1—San Diego—Charles Mantz, 486 Welton St., Chula Vista CA 92011

USS Mobile—Norfolk VA—Anthony Clemintone, 280 E. Warren St., Isehn NJ 08830

USS Myrmdon ARL-16—Moline IL—Al Varga, 1428 20th St., Wyandotte MI 48192

USS Mesanic AO-71—Warren Dixon, 5015 Montclair Dr., Nashville TN 37211

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USS Oakland—Oakland CA—Roy Fouché, 2441 Belvedere Ave., San Leandro CA 94577

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USS PC-793 Assn.—Portland ME—Joseph Wilkinson, 461 Lawrence Switch Rd. Rt. 4, Jackson TN 38305

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USS Atlanta CL-104—Walter Walls, Rt 3 Box 246, Danielsville GA 30633
USS Attu CVE-102—Dayton OH—Kermit Stephens, RR 1 Box 268C, Milner GA 30257
USS Balch DD-363 & USS Porterfield DD-682 George Marcotte, 219 S. Western Ave., Los Angeles CA 90004
USS Banner APA-60—Houston—H K Brooks, Box 509, Sweeny TX 77480
USS Bon Homme Richard CVA-31—Ralph Pound, POB 1531, Tupelo MS 38802
USS Card CVE-11 & VC-1 Meadowlands NJ—Joe Macchia, Rt 3 Box 3315, Melrose FL 32666
USS Catskill LSV-1 (WWII)—R.L. Beckius, 7136 Inca Way, Denver CO 80221
USS Champlin DD-601—Plymouth MA—Martin Cover, 301 Devon Rd., Fairless Hills PA 19030
USS Clay & USS Elizabeth C. Stanton—Erlanger KY John Brass, 403 E. 330, Willowick OH 44094
USS Cleveland CL-55—Jefferson City MO—Sam Cagle, 3633 23rd Ave., Forest Grove OR 97116
USS Colorado BB-45—St. Paul—Donald Ross, Rt 2 Box 308, Richmond MN 56368
USS Cony DDE-506 Portland ME—Bill Skillings, POB 146, Orr's Island ME 04066

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USN, YRBN-16 (Vietnam, 1966-67)—Reunion?—Walter Lowney, Box 82, Boulder MT 59632
"Mission to Moscow" cadre members (WWII)—Reunion?—John Hunter, RD-4 Box 132 Newville PA 17241
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USS Henrico APA-45—Reunion?—V.R. Fehleion, 409 Reifert St., Pittsburgh PA 15210
308th Bomb Gp. (CBI), 374th Bomb Sqdn.—Seeking members of unit—Allen Walker, 692 Glenn Ave., Lewisburg TN 37091
359th Trans. (Pieiku, Vietnam)—Reunion?—John Puckett (c/o Anthonys Photo), 400 Hwy. 19 N., Palatka FL 32077
CBMU 539 (WWII)—Seeking James Brown & Frank York—James Smith, POB 4209, St. Louis MO 63163
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758th Tank Bn., Co. D (WWII)—Seeking anyone in unit—Kenneth Wiltshire, 158-11 N. Conduit Ave., Springfield Garden NY 11434.

58th FA Bn., Btry. A (Korea, 1953-54)—Seeking Jack Dempsey & Bob Robinson—Earl Hugh Byler, Rt. 5 Box 480, Ponca City OK 74601.

1st Marine Div., 5th Rgt., Rgt. Wpns. Co. (1942-44)—Reunion?—Pat LaRosa, 335 N. Water St., Mill Hall PA 17751.

185th Gen. Hosp. (England, 1945)—Seeking Major Shafer or any nurses in his command, for reunion—James Solan, 26 Montague Ave., Trenton NJ 08628.

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97th Div., 386th Rgt., Co. E—Seeking Lou Correa & Henry Wadsworth—William Perkov, 5001 Buchanan St., L.A. CA 90042.

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25th Inf. Div., 8th FA Bn., Btry. C (1950-51)—Reunion?—Allen Smith, 3338 Dupont Ave. N., Minneapolis MN 55412.

4th Marines (1943-44)—Seeking Penna & "Sundust" (AZ)—H. McDowell (Smokey), POB 17, Desert Hot Springs CA 92240.

413th Sign. Co. Avn. (India & Okinawa)—Seeking Oscar Gregory & Alva Stephenson—Colangelo Porino, 472 Nova Scotia Hill Rd., Watertown CT 06795.

2nd Inf., HQ Co.—Seeking Tom Long (IN)—K. Chandler, 1010 N. Jones, Apt. C, Tucson AZ 85716.

1884th Engr. Bn., HQ & Ser. C (Guam, Okinawa & Angaur Islands)—Seeking Jeff Huddleson & others—Frank Knowlton, 217A Main St., Otter River MA 01436.

USS Matagorda AVP-22—Reunion?—Joe Leach, POB 8, Tumbling Shoals AR 72581.

4th A/C Recon. Bn. (SEP) (Austria, 1945-55)—Reunion?—John Moore, 213 Sandalwood Dr., Zelenople PA 16063.

PT 524, Sqdn. 30—Seeking George Durna (NJ) & Alden Smith (PA/CO)—James Smith, 411 S. Sycamore, Sycamore OH.

Boat Unit #1, Navy 3923 (Korea)—Reunion?—Ernest Zimany, 76 Chestnut Ln., Hollister CA 95023.

5th Div., 19th FA, Svc. Btry.—Seeking Walter Kruse (WI) & Richard Rose—Joe Rose, 4107 N. Vassar Rd., Flint MI 48506.

USS LST 310 (WWII)—Reunion?—Robert O'Dell, 13151 S. Francis Rd., DeWitt MI 48820.

continued on page 54

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SEEKING

continued from page 53

297th Gen. Hosp. (Kidderminster, England, WWII)—Reunion?—Louis Rypel, 5258 Henderson St., Chicago IL 60641.

11th Armored Cav. Rgt., Air Cav. Troop (Vietnam, 1970-71)—Reunion?—James Angelini, 2512 Lower Hunters Trace, Louisville KY 40216.

8th AF, 305th Bomb Gp. (Lechfeld AB, Germany, 1946)—Seeking Ralph Covell (MI)—Donald McElfresh, Rt. 4, Caldwell OH 43724.

63rd Inf. Div., 254th Rgt., 2nd Bn., Intelligence Section—Seeking William Hart & Clarence Short—Ralph Lane, 4661 S.W. Channel Heights Court, Dunnellon FL 32630.

95th Div., 377th Rgt., Co. B (WWII)—Seeking others in the unit who were POWs in Germany—Earl J. Vlies, Rt. 2 Box 266-D, Burnet TX 78611.

VNF 214, MAG 11, 1st Wing, Black Sheep Sqdn.—Seeking all members—Ralph Burdick, 206 Runymede Ave., Jenkintown PA 19046.

506th Fighter Gp., 462nd Fighter Sqdn. (Iwo Jima, 1945)—Reunion?—Edward Bahlhorn, 7485 Center Pkwy., Sacramento CA 95823.

60th Sig. Svc. Co. (ASA) (1946-51)—Reunion?—Donald Woods, NE 263 Tahuya River Dr., Tahuya WA 98588.

USS Niagara (West Indies, 1918-19)—Seeking information on fellow survivors—E.W. Henderson, RR 2 White Earth Lake, Waubun MN 56589.

1st Div. (England, WWII)—Seeking Nelson Oryelle—Olive Kibbey, 84 Monmouth Rd., Dorchester, Dorset, England.

Composite Sq. VC-88 (WWII)—Reunion?—Gerald Adams 501 Hartford Rd., Fort Gaines GA 31751.

104th Div., 414th Med. Det.—N.E. Estes, Rt. 1 Box 43, Reva VA 22735.

Displaced Persons Camp (Karlsruhe, Germany, 1945-46)—Seeking anyone who knew Joseph Ferko (guard at camp)—Mrs. L.G. Powell, 609 W. Oak, Hurst TX 76053.

USS Anzio No. 57, VC-33 Air Sqdn. (WWII)—Seeking Clarence O'Neal, Harlen Zeller & others—Tony Ondracek, Box 347, SP. J St. Rest Home, Teedville TX 77461.

110th Gen. Hosp. (Cheltenham, England, Aug.-Nov. 1944)—Carl Pace (doctor), who saved my leg—Paul Hill, Rt. 2 Box 168, Moselle MS 39459.

1227th Labor Supply Co./HQ Co. (Vottem, Belgium)—Seeking William Clark—Robert Dietz, 54 Bis Rue Michel Ange, Paris 75016 France.

USS Rock SS-274 (WWII)—Seeking Lawrence Caselli, Frank Capella & others—Charlie Bowman, 4 Oxford Rd., Goshen NY 10924.

9th Bomb. Sqdn., 7405th Support Sqdn (SAC) (Omaha NE)—Seeking Richard Henry McLain (NY)—Richard Barnes, Rt. 1 165 B, De Lancey NY 13752.

635 FA Bn. (ETO, 1941-45)—Reunion?—Earl Meadows, Star Rt. Box 2614, Sunset Dr., Mulya AL 35118.

1st Marine Div., 11th Marines, 1st Bn., Btry. B (Okinawa)—Reunion?—Wallace Barlow, 111 Race St., Sugar Grove PA 16350.

48th QM, Graves Registration Co. (Europe, WWII)—Reunion?—Jake Heidebrink, 1509 Jackson, Spirit Lake IA 51360.

330th Svc. Gp., 1919 QM Truck Co.—Reunion?—Virgil Fetterhoff, Rt. 3 Box 3466, Hermiston OR 97838.

15th AF, 28th Statistical Ctr. Unit (Italy, 1944-45)—Reunion?—Richard Heiting, 1509 S. Locust Ave. Apt. 1, Marshfield WI 54449.

USS Beaver AS-5 (New London, Scotland & Aleutians, 1942-46)—Seeking anyone who served with Harry Johnson—Anne Johnson, 39 Warham St. Windsor CT 06095.

566-549 Strategic Missile Sqdn. (Offutt AFB NE)—Reunion?—W.R. Torkola, Box 430, Bovey MN 55709.

USS Loyte CV-32—Reunion?—Bob Rosenberg, 146 Park, Pittsford NY 14535.

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TEAMWORK

continued from page 23

said, "Oh, Lord!" Then I noticed a ridge in his Levis, right at the knee. An artificial leg! Both of us started grinning from ear to ear. A one-legged motorcyclist had found a no-legged glider pilot in an alfalfa field in Ionia, Mich. The situation was so bizarre that we laughed until it hurt. His name was Luke. Luke helped me onto his motorcycle, and we made our way to a phone. Luke had be-

come part of the team, another stranger contributing himself to the fulfillment of my dream. (I wonder how I fit into his dream.)

Last Aug. 25 I came to a new awareness. Teamwork saved my life in Vietnam and teamwork continues to make my dreams realities. The selfless spirit of our nation manifests itself in our daily lives in the many examples of teamwork. ■

FIGHT HARDER

continued from page 26

Ross announced a wide variety of awards available on various levels of the organization next year for organizing new Posts.

"Hard work, good planning and assistance from your elected and appointed officers and National Headquarters are essential," Ross said. "New Post development is vital to the growth of our great organization."

Membership Director Benny Bachand, describing the need for an ever greater number of veterans to join the VFW, said the organization "is at a crossroads" because the time has come to introduce new methods of recruitment. The organization, he said, needs new plans and strategies to continue its more than 30 consecutive years of growth, and one will be the "Ask a Buddy" campaign to be announced in August. Bachand also stressed the importance of the Senior Vice Commanders, as the

leaders in their departments in 1986-87, to the organization's membership success.

Don Nikkel, Chief of Staff-Designate, and Jim Kimery, Inspector General-Designate, spoke briefly.

Directors of other programs administered by the Adjutant General's Headquarters staff in Kansas City urged Senior Vice Commanders during their leadership year to encourage the widest possible participation. Similar explanations and discussions were conducted by the Quartermaster General's Kansas City staff. An explanation of proposed By-Law changes was given by Vernon A. Soukup, who chairs the committee overseeing By-Law revisions.

Other conference speakers included Adjutant Gen. Vander Clute, Assistant Adjutant Gens. Edward L. Burnham and Curtis Jewell and Quartermaster Gen. Irwin. ■

EDDIE

continued from page 29

In his book, "Seven Came Through," Rickenbacker recounted exuberant moments of that 23rd day they were lost at sea when rescue planes appeared:

"They came directly out of the sun, straight for us. The first dived right over the raft. We yelled like maniacs. . . Not until then did I look at the insignia. It was the United States Navy."

Capt. Eddie was spry, visibly active and at times cantankerous until that final 1973 day in a Zurich hospital. Some 1,500 employees of Eastern Airlines at the Miami International Airport on July 27 wel-

comed him home in sad requiem.

Several days later in Columbus, Ohio, where he was born and buried in the family plot, another final tribute occurred befitting the life and times of Capt. Eddie.

Rain had been falling during church services. The sun, however, broke through at the cemetery. Four Air Force jets, from the 94th Tactical Fighter Squadron based at Tampa, Fla., swooped over the assemblage, their engines roaring in after-burner power boost.

Someone was heard to say: "Boy, wouldn't Eddie have loved that!" ■



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Order in the Court

There's a story about the Supreme Court Justices going to lunch together. The waiter asked Justice Sandra O'Connor, the only woman in the group, what she would have. Justice O'Connor replied, "I'll have a steak medium rare, please."

The waiter said, "What about the vegetables?"

Justice O'Connor replied, "They will order for themselves."

Economy

Wasteful expenditures by an employee brought an instant rebuke from Lord Beaverbrook, the British newspaper publisher.

He once received from a foreign correspondent a long cable, which was generously sprinkled with commas, at regular word rates. Beaverbrook wired back:

"Send no more commas in cables. Mail separately by regular post."

Benefitted

The little old lady was saying goodbye to the minister who was leaving.

"I'm sorry to see you go," she said. "I never knew what sin was until you came here."

Clarification

Visitor in mental institution, visiting a patient:

Patient: "I'm Abraham Lincoln."

Visitor: "When I was here before, I thought you said you were George Washington."

Patient: "Oh, that was by my first wife."

Innocent

A drunk in San Antonio fell asleep while smoking in bed. After the firemen had the fire under control, one of them asked the drunk: "Were you smoking in bed?"

"Of course not," the drunk replied indignantly, "The bed was on fire when I climbed into it."

Plotting

A four-year old girl was diligently banging away on her daddy's old typewriter. She informed him that she was writing a story.

"What is your story about?" he asked.

"I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."



"Twenty years ago my husband and I exchanged vows. Since then we mostly trade insults and switch channels."

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